

THE TIMES

Monday

Eurocommunism
Eurocommunism today: Part One of a four-part series by Edward Mortimer and our European correspondents

Germany now
City life in Germany on either side of the Iron Curtain

Godparents
With another Royal baby expected, Monday page looks at the joys and duties of being a godparent like, perhaps, Harry Secombe (below)

Ice Hockey Will Russia's Big Red Machine get revenge for the humiliation of 1980 in the final event of the Winter Olympics?

Old mads
The pleasures of being an old maid — or not, as the case may be: Penny Perrick reflects on a new book

MPs issue
writs over
Panorama

Writs claiming damages for libel were served on the BBC by two Conservative MPs, Mr Neil Hamilton, Tatton, and Mr Gerald Howarth, Cheadle and Broughton. They relate to the *Panorama* programme alleging links between Conservative MPs and right-wing extremists.

Children in care

Mr Jerry Hayes, Conservative MP for Harlow, is seeking leave to introduce a Bill giving parents stronger rights to challenge decisions to take their children into care or to deny them access

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Glenn gloom

Senator John Glenn is failing to make headway in Iowa in his campaign to win the Democratic nomination, trailing Senator Walter Mondale by 35 points

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Powell warning

Mr Enoch Powell has again pointed to the prospect of conflict "a generation or two ahead" because of the growth of immigrant populations in English cities

Page 2

Envoy resigns

President Reagan's special Central America envoy, Mr Richard Stone, has resigned because of a personality clash

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Voters' list row

Labour-controlled Camden Council in north London, facing a strong challenge in a by-election, is taking High Court action to reinstate 149 names deleted from the voters' list

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Drugs concern

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, was said to be "concerned and surprised" at reports that doctors are still prescribing drugs withdrawn on safety grounds

Page 2

Last word

Rising house prices and bigger pensions, make it imperative that you revise your will regularly. Family money, page 25

Favourites win

Southampton, the FA Cup favourites, qualified for the sixth round with a 1-0 victory over Blackburn Rovers. Armstrong scored early in the second half

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Leader page 9

Letters On the countryside, from Mr N. Barber, Tories and BBC, from Lord Greenhill of Harrow, and Mr J. V. C. Butcher

Leading articles: Political levy: The Titian

Features, page 8

The choice facing the BBC: France's right-wing challenger; new shock waves from the Getty bequest; asset-stripping off the Falklands; Sir Roy Strong laments the departed domestic

Obituary, page 10

Georges Wakhevitch, Mr C. H. G. Millis

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Gemayel's survival deal spurned by Israel and Syria

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

President Gemayel's hastily-concocted "peace plan" to stave off political and military disaster for his regime in Lebanon appeared to have failed yesterday even before it had been officially announced.

For the eight-point document, which he was said to have signed on Thursday night, was in reality an unsigned offer to abrogate his country's unofficial peace treaty with Israel — but only in conjunction with a series of proposals, some of which have already been rejected by the Syrians, Israelis and Lebanese opposition.

Israel has refused to accept the destruction of the May 17 agreement, while the Syrians were making it clear last night that they would not contemplate a simultaneous military withdrawal with Israel — one of the seven other proposals made by Mr Gemayel.

Druze and Shia Muslim opposition leaders condemned the plan in advance before they realized that it would involve the return of the Lebanese Army to west Beirut. Unsurprisingly, perhaps, American officials in the Lebanese capital last night expressed themselves sceptical that the proposals would ever be accepted.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia was part-author of the plan, and Mr Gemayel last night said that it was broad-based and would lead to "National reconciliation and the unity of the country." Through the proposals, the President said, Lebanon expected "A new era with the Syrians." He had heard nothing from the Israelis but agreed that Lebanon would have to discuss the proposals with them.

With an optimism born of desperation rather than reality, Mr Elie Salem, the Lebanese

Foreign Minister, said it was "a very daring plan that will have the enthusiastic support of all the Lebanese" but it appeared that little prior consultation had taken place with either Syria or Israel.

As outlined by Mr Salem yesterday, the Gemayel proposals were:

● Implementation of the security plan put forward last month which would replace Phalangist militias south of

ON PAGE FOUR

White House disarray

Warning by Israel

Italians stand firm

Beirut and Druze militias in the Kharoub region with units of the Lebanese Army. (The plan was drawn up last month before the militias captured west Beirut. It would thus almost certainly involve the re-entry of the Army into the Muslim sector of the capital. Druze militias have already captured part of the Kharoub and almost driven the Phalange south of the highway south of Beirut.)

● Cancellation of the May 17 troop withdrawal agreement with Israel. (Syria has demanded the abrogation of this unofficial peace treaty between Lebanon and Israel since it was made public, but Israel insists it will not accept its cancellation.)

● The working out of security arrangements in southern Lebanon. (Mr Salem yesterday said that "Lebanon accepts that Israel would not withdraw until there are security guarantees for its northern border". Syria would accept a Lebanese-Israeli military agreement which guarantees both sides of the frontier from aggression by either side, but Israel would

● All the points in the plan are to be considered as a package.

● A government of national unity will be formed to implement the plan. (Mr Salem said it would "include all prominent leaders and should, by necessity, include the leaders of the (pro-Syrian) National Salvation Front and the leader of Amal, or their representatives".)

Mr Salem said President Gemayel would only cancel the May 17 agreement if all the proposals were accepted.

In Damascus yesterday, Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, met his Saudi counterpart to discuss the plan.

The 30-day clock started ticking yesterday.

The mood in Washington is grim. Some Democratic presidential opponents are talking openly about the "waste" of American lives. Events have careered away from American control and Mr George Shultz, Secretary of State, has gone to the Bahamas for a long week

to get out during a session at the White House with Mr Robert McFarlane, his National Security Adviser.

The Administration says the Marines will not be threatened during their departure because of an understanding with rebellious Muslim factions who have indicated that they see no advantage in trying to block access to the beach. US commanders have been told to accelerate the withdrawal if events turn hostile.

US orders Marines out of Beirut

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

White House with Mr Robert McFarlane, his National Security Adviser.

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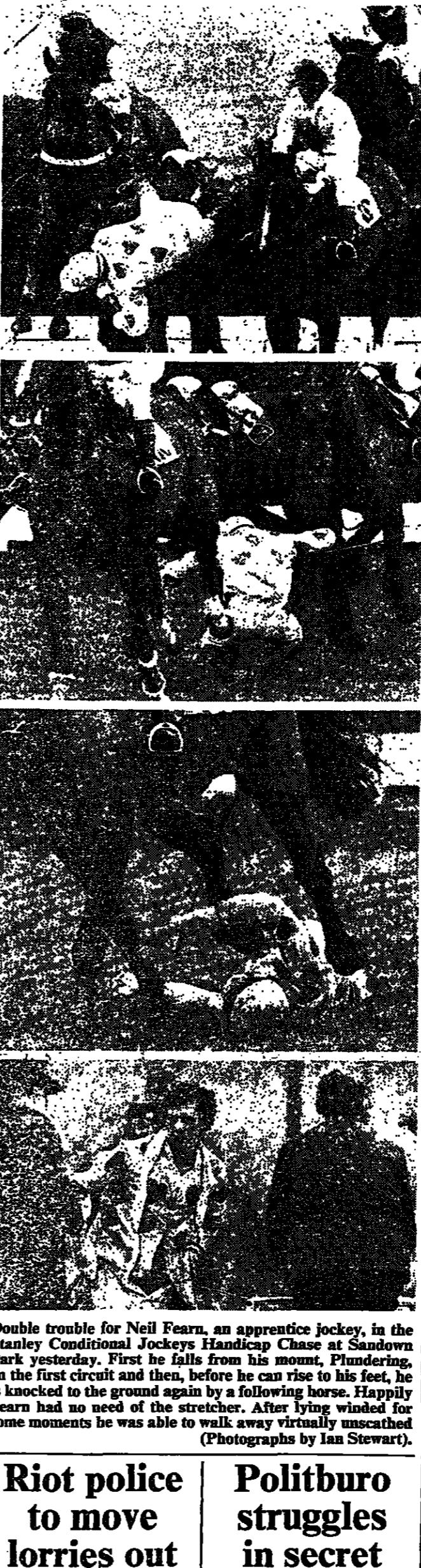
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The great escape



Double trouble for Neil Fearn, an apprentice jockey, in the Stanley Conditional Jockeys Handicap Chase at Sandown Park yesterday. First he falls from his mount, Plundering, on the first circuit and then, before he can rise to his feet, he is knocked to the ground again by a following horse. Happily Fearn had no need of the stretcher. After lying winded for some moments he was able to walk away virtually unscathed. (Photographs by Ian Stewart.)

Background, page 3

Riot police to move lorries out

Politburo struggles in secret

From Richard Owen

Moscow

The French Government decided yesterday to send in paramilitary CRS police, Troops, helicopters and military aircraft to clear main roads paralysed by angry French lorry drivers.

The drivers are demanding compensation for time wasted during a customs strike on the France-Italian border.

Customs officers on both sides of the border resumed work yesterday, but the drivers decided to go ahead with their action, timed to coincide with the start of the traditional winter sports holiday period, when up to a million cars are expected on the roads.

Huge traffic jams built up on main roads out of Paris and police reported only two main routes out of the capital clear as holidaymakers prepared to leave. There were also heavy traffic jams elsewhere in France.

Diplomats said there could be only three explanations for last night's commission: the Politburo had not met this week because of the aftermath of President Andropov's funeral; Mr Chernenko had decided to revert to the secrecy of the Brezhnev era; or factional disagreements prevented the issuing of an agreed version of the meeting.

First reports of Politburo dissension surfaced on Thursday with the publication in booklet form of the official account of Monday's extraordinary plenum at which Mr Chernenko, aged 72, was elected general secretary. It revealed that a closing speech had been made by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, aged 52, the technocratic contender for the leadership.

Mr Gorbachev had appealed for party unity after the outcome of the succession struggle.

Last night's television news opened with report of Mr Chernenko's meetings in the Kremlin with the leaders of Mongolia and Madagascar, Mr Yumzagt Tsendbaba and President Dider Ritsiraka.

Lawyers defeated on home sales

By Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

Solicitors acknowledged defeat bravely yesterday in the face of government proposals to end their monopoly on conveyancing, the profession's biggest single source of income, and to let banks and building societies do the work.

Accepting the loss, the Law Society welcomed the setting up of a government committee to determine safeguards under which licensed non-solicitor conveyancers will operate.

But it attacked the Government's proposal that solicitors in banks and building societies should be permitted to undertake conveyancing for customers, arguably a far bigger financial threat to the profession.

The Law Society said that that posed such overwhelming dangers "in terms of potentially serious conflict of interests, the loss to the public of independent and impartial advice, and the inevitable reduction in freedom of choice and in competition" that legislation would not be justified.

Banks, building societies and consumers all welcomed the proposals. Mr David Tench, legal officer of the Consumers' Association, which has led the lobby for reform, predicted possible cuts of one third in conveyancing fees on a second-hand house with a registered title. That would mean a saving of £100 on a house price of £30,000.

The Building Societies Association welcomed the proposals and a senior employee at the National Westminster Bank headquarters said: "We see this as a way of strengthening our foot in the mortgage market".

He envisaged a mortgage and conveyancing "package" whereby conveyancing was offered along with the mortgage and its cost "hidden" by being spread with mortgage repayments. It could be worth £25m for all the banks.

Banks would probably offer conveyancing first to employees compulsorily moved as part of their work, he said. For all five main clearing banks that could be worth £3.5m of the conveyancing market.

The Law Society last year pursued a series of unsuccessful prosecutions against non-licensed conveyancers. It will still put the case for solicitors only to do the work, but accepts that if change is to happen it should be by way of licensed conveyancers.

On the thorny issue of advertising, which the Law Society has always opposed as regards the price of work, it said yesterday that it would enter into discussions.

Two groups of conveyancers, the National Institute of Conveyancing Agents and the National Association of Conveyancers welcomed the proposals.

Government to act, page 2

Connery awarded £2.8m damages

By Kenneth Gosling

Sean Connery, the James Bond star, has

Minister concerned that withdrawn drugs can still be prescribed

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Family doctors are free to see an inquiry. If a drug is withdrawn it is because it is in the interests of the safety of the public. The drug companies should ensure that the withdrawal is as absolute as possible.

The Committee on Safety of Medicines said: "It is a doctor's clinical freedom to prescribe what he thinks best for his patients. It is interesting that these drugs are still being prescribed, but not remarkable or shocking."

Mr Clarke was briefed by Department of Health and Social Security officials yesterday after newspaper reports alleged that four drugs withdrawn after being linked with the deaths of patients were still being dispensed in chemists' shops.

The drugs include Zomax, a painkiller which was withdrawn by its manufacturers in March 1983, the anti-arthritis drug Osmosin, withdrawn last September, and Flosist, withdrawn last December, and the anti-depressant Zelmid.

Despite the conclusion reached by the Government's Committee on Safety of Medicines that the drugs should no longer be available, newspaper reports yesterday showed that they were still being prescribed by doctors and dispensed by pharmacists.

The under-secretary of the British Medical Association, Dr Frank Wells, said: "I am dismayed and should like to

see an inquiry. If a drug is withdrawn it is because it is in the interests of the safety of the public. The drug companies should ensure that the withdrawal is as absolute as possible."

The Committee on Safety of Medicines said: "It is a doctor's clinical freedom to prescribe what he thinks best for his patients. It is interesting that these drugs are still being prescribed, but not remarkable or shocking."

Mr Clarke was said to be "concerned and surprised" at the continued availability of the drugs. But a Department of Health official said: "It is not illegal for either a doctor to prescribe them or a pharmacist to dispense them, even after the committee has called for their withdrawal."

A doctor has the right to treat a patient as he sees fit, and a pharmacist cannot deny him the medication which the doctor has prescribed.

"In practice, a chemist would probably contact the doctor and remind him that the drug had been withdrawn. The doctor could then say that, even so, he wished that particular patient to continue receiving the treatment.

Government to act on conveyancing

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Backbench pressure and public opinion has forced the Government to make the whole business of house transfer cheaper and more efficient.

In return for the withdrawal by Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Great Grimsby, of his private member's House Buyers Bill, ministers have given firm promises of early action to:

- Allow solicitors employed by banks, building societies and other organizations to do conveyancing

- Allow competition from non-solicitor conveyancers

- Extend land registration with the aim of covering the whole of England and Wales within 10 years

- Review and improve the wider aspects of house transfer.

Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, in a written Commons answer yesterday said that the Government hoped to legislate on the first two matters in the next session of Parliament.

Mr Mitchell, and his co-sponsors from other parties, claimed yesterday that they had struck an important blow for the consumer and for competition and wrung several concessions from the Government since their Bill secured a second reading in the Commons last December.

The Bill's supporters, including 25 Conservative rebels, then mustered the 100 votes required to secure its passage, with not one vote to spare.

Journalists split on Bill

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Leading journalists are divided over sweeping immunities granted to journalism in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill. Thirty-three media executives have signed a letter to Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Home Office, preferring exclusion from protection provided by the Bill.

But, in another letter to Mr Hurd, the Guild of British Newspaper Editors, acknowledging that the split exists, says that most of its members prefer immunity.

As it stands, the Bill provides safeguards for "journalistic material" against powers for police to search premises for evidence of serious arrestable offences.

Although the Government is

PARLIAMENT February 17 1984

State aid for new technology still rising

COMMONS

It trade unionists cooperated over the introduction of new technology they should enjoy the benefits, such as shorter hours and early retirement. Mr Don Dixon (Jarrow, Lab) said in the Commons.

Initiating a debate on new technology, he called on the Government to make a searching review of developments and present new proposals to prevent any further decline of Britain as an industrial nation.

Mr Ian Lloyd (Hebburn, Co) commenting on the poor attendance at the debate, said the House was embarrassed by technology which it found strange, uncomfortable, new, challenging and difficult.

He did not think a searching review was necessary as the Government was already long on diagnosis and short on action. But a new institution was needed to serve Parliament, similar to the US Congress's Office for Technological Assessment.

Science was inadequately served today in the Government because nobody spoke for science as a whole, despite Mrs Thatcher being the first Prime Minister who was a scientist.

Mr Douglas Hoyle (Warrington North, Lab), vice-president of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staff, said they were debating against the sombre back-

ground of the decline of Britain's manufacturing industry. Unless something could be done urgently that decline could be terminal.

The Government's economic policies were greatly to blame. The idea of free competition and unrestricted imports had had a terrible effect upon Britain's manufacturing base. One of the tests of a real industrial nation today was whether it had a mass production of micro-chips and with the selling off Ithmos when the Government should be putting more money into it.

Mr Richard Tracey (Surbiton, Co) said there were considerable consequences for employment with the development of new technology. This had to be looked at carefully by both sides of industry.

Unions had not been completely blameless, and one could understand their concern. But there had been rather graphic examples of almost Luddite behaviour by unions when faced with new technology.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, said that in the last three to four years the Government had done a great deal to ensure that opportunities were not missed. When the Conservatives came to power government support for information technology was about £50m a year. It had risen to £231m last year and £269m was planned for this year.

The Government regarded this commitment as not open-ended public expenditure but as a form of catalyst.



Nurses likely to get full pay award

From Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent, Chesterfield

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, strongly indicates yesterday that the Government would abide by the review body verdict on nurses' and midwives' pay.

The 460,000 National Health Service nurses and midwives have claimed an increase of about 20 per cent, with £100-a-week minimum from April 1, although Whitehall has budgeted for 3 per cent increase on its £2,767m pay bill.

Mr Nicholas Bourne, Conservative candidate in the Chesterfield by-election, told a meeting organised by the Royal College of Nursing on Thursday that the review would be binding.

He said that it would be inconceivable that the body's recommendation could be rejected by the Prime Minister and that it would be totally unacceptable if money for pay rises was taken out of the overall health budget, with cuts in cash limits.

Mr Fowler described as "poty two of Mr Benn's more extreme by-election statements" that the Government gave greater priority to arming the police with CS gas and rubber bullets than to eradicating breast cancer, and that the attempt to ban unions at GCHQ was the start of a campaign to make all trade unions illegal.

Mr David Steel, Liberal Party leader, yesterday visited Chesterfield to support the campaign of Mr Max Payne.

Mr Steel said that the electorate would not be fooled by the show of harmony being put on for Mr Benn by the Kinnoch-Hattersley leadership.

Union leaders dispute reports that up to half of the 7,000 staff at GCHQ have signed the forms. They believe the figure to be not much more than 1,000.

The unions believe they must reassure members in view of Mrs Thatcher's firm stance over the past three days, which as diminished much of their optimism that a compromise could be reached to preserve union membership at GCHQ.

But they have to find a formula which will avoid large payments which could bankrupt some unions.

Despite being handed in on December 19, missing the December 16 closing date, the list was accepted by the council on Thursday after complaints from the other parties.

Among the apparent oddities of the list compiled from the hostel's 800 residents were the inclusion of a Kearns Hugh as well as a Hugh Kearns, a Thompson Henry and Henry Thompson, three James Galaghers and several other identical or near-identical pairs of names, including an Arthur Custance and an Arthur Constance and two Frederick J. Kellys. Some of these have been deleted.

The council and the Labour Party yesterday strongly denied accusations of malpractice and blamed a series of administrative errors, coupled with the extreme difficulty of securing an accurate electoral return for a large and shifting hostel population.

Mr Stein, who is chairman of the Arlington House Action Group, said: "It was an innocent mistake which the Tories have picked up for political purposes. There is no question of anything being falsified. Nobody involved thinks it is anything other than an administrative problem."

Among the reasons for the errors, according to the action group, were allowing Arlington residents to add their names if they thought they were left out of draft lists posted in the hostel, and inadvertent double entries by the group and the council.

The new deadline, the end of March 1987, was announced in the Commons yesterday by Mr John MacKay, Under Secretary of State at the Scottish Office, after the Government had decided not to change the amount which the commission is expected to raise from selling land and growing timber. Only £37m has been raised so far.

The commission said that it welcomed the extra year, but would not say whether it had asked for it.

The commission explained that it and the Government had decided that releasing any details about individual sales might put off potential buyers. MPs complained on Monday that the commission refused even to disclose the reserve prices it put on plantations before selling them.

Mr Lamont: Could lose the chance of a fortune

Act any application containing information which could be prejudicial to the nation's defences has to be referred to the Ministry of Defence.

The ministry could refuse permission for a patent if intelligence services were already using a similar invention and did not want its details made public.

The ministry said yesterday that of 40,000 patent applications a year, 800 were referred to them, of which an average of one in seven ended with a restricted patent.

Science report, page 10

Mr Lamont ran into trouble with his invention when he applied last month for a patent. Under section 22 of the Patents Act any application containing information which could be prejudicial to the nation's defences has to be referred to the Ministry of Defence.

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£26m robbery guard who talked 'will always be a fugitive from revenge'

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Anthony Black, a Brinks-Mat security guard who provided information which led to Britain's largest recorded robbery of £26m, set in motion a train of events which may leave him a fugitive from criminal revenge for life. He was told by a judge yesterday.

Black gave armed robbers details of his firm's high security warehouse near Heathrow airport, provided a key for copying, ensured that the copy worked in the warehouse lock and on the day of the raid signalled the gang from the warehouse that the raid could go ahead.

The Central Criminal Court was told that Black, aged 31, was unable to withstand police questioning soon after the robbery on November 26. With the words: "where do I begin", Black started to confess his role and eventually agreed to give evidence against the alleged raiders.

In a hearing lasting less than an hour Black admitted his part in the robbery and the court was told that he had provided information leading to the arrest of three others who were facing criminal proceedings.

Sentencing Black to six years' imprisonment, the Common Sergeant, Mr David Tudor Price, told him that the sentence had been reduced because "you and your family will forever be fugitives from those whom you so stupidly and wickedly helped".

A slim man with a black moustache, he sat flanked by prison officers as Mr Timothy Cassel outlined the case for the Crown. He said that the robbery

had been "highly organized, ruthless and enormously lucrative".

On November 25 the Brinks-Mat warehouse, on an industrial estate near the airport, was stocked with consignments of gold, platinum, diamonds and travellers' cheques destined for customers throughout the world. The items were worth a total of £26,369,778.

On November 26, a Saturday, the security firm was due to move three tons of the gold, worth nearly £2m, collected the day before from Johnson Matthey, bullion dealers, to Gatwick airport. The warehouse was not normally manned at weekends but a crew was selected including Black, who was told of the job on the Friday afternoon.

Mr Cassel said that the warehouse was divided, with a restroom on the first floor and the vault, with a combination lock, on the ground floor. Half of the combination was known to the supervisor of each crew and the other half to a "key man" who had access to all the warehouse doors and responsibility for the alarm system.

On the day of the robbery Black was to man the radio link in the warehouse connected to the van carrying the gold. At 6.30 a.m. the warehouse was opened by Mr Michael Scouse, the key man, who let in the crew. Black was late and arrived at 6.40 a.m.

Black was let in. The rest of the crew were in the restroom. Black went to the lavatory downstairs and then opened the inner of two doors. He waved

through the glass outer door and the robbers struck.

The three raiders, all armed, forced all the security men to the floor, hooded them, handcuffed them and tied their feet with tape. They asked for Mr Scouse and pulled him from the room. He was told to breathe in and he could feel his trousers and belt being cut with a knife.

Petrol was poured on him and he was told that he would be set alight and shot through the head if he did not do what he was told. The robbers, Mr Cassel said, told him that they had been planning the robbery for a year and had been watching the warehouse for nine months. The told him to go through his routine and forced him to tell them where his keys were.

The crew leader, Mr Robin Risley, was also threatened with petrol and the two men were forced to open the vault and turn off the alarm system.

He was threatened with torture and mutilation if he did not open safe in the vault but he could not remember the combinations. The gang left him, opened the shuttered doors to the warehouse and loaded a van before disappearing.

Commander Frank Carter, head of Scotland Yard's Flying Squad, told the court that he would prefer Black for his own safety to remain in police custody rather than go to prison. In prison he would come in contact with men who might be extremely dangerous and influence his evidence.

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Musical youth: Alberto Portoghesi, the Argentine pianist, took his wife Marina and daughter Susanna, aged five months, to hear him play Schubert's Trout quintet with members of the London Symphony Orchestra in the Barbican foyer yesterday. On more formal occasions Susanna is left with a babysitter backstage. (Photograph: John Manning)

Home treatment hope for PC Olds

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Police Constable Philip Olds, who was paralysed after being shot by armed robbers two and a half years ago, is to be given new high-technology treatment to help him to walk again.

PC Olds, aged 31, will receive the treatment, involving electrical stimulation of his leg muscles, from a small research unit in Port Talbot, South Wales, which has been awarded a £50,000 government grant.

PC Olds, who works for the Metropolitan Police as a clerical officer, has undergone similar treatment from a university laboratory in Drayton, Ohio. The equipment in Port Talbot has the unique advantage, however, of being suitable for home use.

Dr Hugh Grenfell, a Port Talbot engineer who developed the equipment, and who will treat PC Olds, said yesterday: "This young man has already visited us and we think we can help him. The muscles of his legs have started to atrophy since he last received treatment in the United States and the first task is to build them up again. We will exercise his legs and when and if he is strong enough we will go a stage further and try him with walking equipment."

The equipment consists of a

BBC silent on reports of reshuffle

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The BBC refused to comment yesterday on reports that a senior management reshuffle is planned because of the corporation's failure to match the commercial network's ratings.

Mr Aubrey Singer, whose replacement as managing director of BBC Television by Mr Bill Cotton, head of its satellite broadcasting venture, was reported in *The Guardian*, also refused to comment.

Mr Singer's departure is common to every BBC rumour and it is expected to be agreed by the board of governors next Thursday.

Corporation sources speculated that Mr Alan Hart, the controller of BBC 1, and Mr Brian Wenham, the controller of programmes, might also be moved.

The managerial changes are likely to be of prime importance. The BBC's campaign for a licence fee of more than £500, compared with the present £46 for a colour set, will be launched shortly.

One key belief is that the Government will not agree to that increase if BBC 1 and BBC 2 can regularly attract only 45 per cent of the viewing audience.

Mr Cotton, a former BBC 1 controller and head of light entertainment, is reputed to be more interested in conventional popular programming than Mr Singer.

A tempting option would be to replace the traditional early evening current affairs programme, *Sixty Minutes*, with light entertainment.

Reith or wreath, page 8

was a light-hearted lampoon. "That lampoon is not light-hearted; it is ill-informed, abusively, and offensive", he said.

Mr Jameson described the sketch as a "savage and monstrous attack on me".

Mr Jameson had described earlier how, when editor of the *Daily Express*, he ran a world exclusive on Joyce McKinney, the girl in the "manacled Mormon" case, after she jumped bail in England and had been tracked down in the United States.

The hearing continues on Monday.

Nurse's father can fight fine

A High Court judge yesterday granted the father of Helen Smith leave to challenge a £50 fine for contempt imposed at the inquest in 1982 into the nurse's death at an illegal drinks party in Saudi Arabia.

Mr Stephen Sedley, QC,

for the nurse, told the court that he had been told that the nurse had no power to collect it.

The equipment consists of a

President Reagan during his 1980 election campaign, a recording of which was played to Mr Justice Comyns and the jury.

Mr Jameson, aged 54, who was until last month editor of the *News of the World*, seeks damages against the BBC and Mr Aubrey Singer, then managing director of BBC Radio.

The defendants deny libel and say the sketch, titled "Man of the Week", was fair comment and a matter of public interest.

He rejected a suggestion by Mr John Wilmer, QC, for the BBC, that a sketch about him

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Jameson envies freedom to be rude

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the girl in the "manacled Mormon" case, after she jumped bail in England and had been tracked down in the United States.

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Plea to end 'horror and squalor' at Greenham

People living near the Greenham Common cruise missile base yesterday appealed to the Prime Minister to end the "horror and squalor" caused by peace women camping outside the Berkshire airfield.

A letter and list of complaints were handed in to 10 Downing Street by the leader of the "Greenham Common Women Out" campaign, Mrs Sheila Sheldon.

She wrote: "I am writing to you to beg you to bring your influence and position to bear on your Minister of Transport to clear the main gate of the base, which is the nucleus of the settlement."

"The apparent indifference of the Government to the plight of those suffering from this intolerable

invasion by these women has been endured for the past two years.

"Newbury, and in particular the residents of Greenham, have suffered long enough. Only those who have to endure this horror and squalor can know what it is really like."

Mrs Sheldon, who went to London expecting opposition from peace campaigners, was shadowed by her bodyguard for the day. Mr Philip Gore, a taxi-driver from Newbury.

Before handing in the letter she claimed that peace women used local gardens as latrines and were verbally and physically abusive. "Residents are afraid to take any action against the peace campaigners for fear of retaliation and reprisal".

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Disarray in the White House over withdrawal of Marines

From Christopher Thomas Washington

It has been a time of confusion and anger in Washington, unprecedented by any foreign policy event of the Reagan Administration. The White House is in disarray, the Pentagon and State Department are at odds. Even as President Reagan yesterday ordered the troops to begin leaving Beirut there was no agreement on why they went, what they have achieved and - even now - whether they should leave.

Only a few days before ordering the pull-out, Mr Reagan was still sending out confusing messages. He said he would send in army instructors in large numbers. "We are sending in a force for additional training, so there's no leaving at all." It has emerged that the instructors will number no more than a few hundred - a token, hardly justifying the President's remark.

Mr Reagan antagonized the French and Italians by the way the original announcement of the withdrawal of the Marines from Beirut was made 12 days ago.

The French are especially angry. While the British said they had no complaints about prior consultations, a French government representative in Washington said: "He could not keep up with what was going on. There were no consultations. That is probably why our troops are still there."

The French and Italians are now more suspicious than ever of the intimate Anglo-American relationship. They have felt excluded by it; they feel that the British have been kept more in touch. And they fear the Mr Reagan has become unpredictable over Lebanon.

Events in the past 12 days have put immense strain on the Administration's attempt to appear united. Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, was upset by the ferocity of the bombardment of Lebanon by the 16-inch guns of the USS New Jersey last week and ordered restraint.

Despite Administration denial, it is the possible the initial bombardment was a political

Italians stay at their post as multinational force disintegrates

From Robert Fisk
Beirut

Lebanon was falling apart. Even the President's palace came under threat of ground attack. But down in the slums of West Beirut, Captain Eugenio Rosaldo from Padua dutifully led his small Italian Army foot-patrol through the narrow streets of Beirut el-Baath, still faithful to the mandate of a multinational force that is itself disintegrating.

Captain Rosaldo is a thoughtful man behind his dark glasses and impulsive face and he makes no bones about his feelings. Yes, things are getting worse, yes the Amal militiamen have moved into the streets north and south of the Bourj. The Palestinians see no future for themselves. But no, he doesn't think the Italians should leave Beirut. Ask him why and he replies, immediately: "I am a professional soldier."

When the Italians first came to Lebanon in 1982, they were the subject of much unkind humour. The feathers on their helmets were reputed to come from chickens and their vehicles were painted a luminous white. Whole lorry-loads of Lasagne were freighted into Beirut to cater for their Neapolitan tastes. General Angioi invited his visitors to wash down their dinner with

have stayed at their posts to guard the Palestinian camp.

They have taken much of the shellfire of recent days and they have accounted for most of the multinational force withdrawn. Seven Italian soldiers have been wounded in the past ten days alone, some of them

shot in the head. Even now many of them do not want to leave.

If, therefore, anyone was to donate battle honours to the soldiers who came to Lebanon to keep the peace two years ago, they would have to go to the men of the Folgore Parachute Battalion, the San Marco Marines and the soldiers of the Italian Special Forces.

The Italian Government announced on Wednesday that most of its troops would be withdrawn from Lebanon within two weeks.

But no orders have yet come for a withdrawal and few of the soldiers seem anxious to leave.

Staff Sergeant Nuccio de

Main, for example, was parked in Observation Post 27 above Chatila yesterday, watching through binoculars the clouds of smoke rising from the battlefields to the east. "Keep behind the sandbags because of the stray bullets," was his only comment until asked what he thought of Lebanon. Whereupon this extraordinary sergeant embarked upon a lecture about the Amal militia, the split in the PLO, the problems of Jumblat, Beirut and Gemayel.

"You can never talk religion here and you can never talk politics," he said. "You always have to mix the two together." With such wisdom, how could the Italians fail?

EEC denies US wine dumping charge

By Rodney Cowie
Defence Correspondent

Iran yesterday claimed to have recaptured territory from Iraq and to have killed or wounded 1,100 Iraqi soldiers in a second night of fighting on the border, south of Mehran.

Despite nearly a week of tit-for-tat air and missile attacks and the resurgence of fighting near Mehran, sources doubt whether the offensive constitutes a major attack by Iran. The two countries have been at war more than three years.

There have been reports of as many as 500,000 Iranians massing for an attack, but the view in the West is that the present fighting may be a diversion, or the prelude to a substantial attack further south, towards Al Anbar.

There is also doubt whether Iran has the ability to inflict severe damage on Iraq. The pattern over the last year or more has been that Iran throws large numbers of minimally-trained, lightly-armed Revolutionary Guards into the attack. Through sheer weight of numbers they gain some ground, but the attack peters out as Iraq, which enjoys great air superiority, inflicts heavy casualties.

The attacks frequently amount to not much more than the Iranians recovering ground which the Iraqis won in the early stages of the war.

If the Iranians have a major objective it could be to seize the Baghdad-Basra road between Kut and Al Aqarib, just this far 25 miles west of their latest reported positions and to get there would require a much greater advance than they have so far managed to sustain.

According to Baghdad radio, 14 civilians were killed and 12 wounded in an Iranian air raid on the town of Ali Al Gharbi, east of Kut.

The Iraqi news agency quoted President Saddam Hussein saying his government was ready to sign an agreement with Iran to halt attacks on civilian areas



Lebanese at war: A Druze shaykh carries an AK47 assault rifle while a Lebanese Army soldier brandishes an M16.

Israel serves notice on Lebanon

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv

Israel served notice this

weekend that if Lebanon had

abrogated, as widely presumed,

the agreement on troop with-

drawal between the two coun-

tries would leave the Israeli

Government to make security

arrangements in southern Leba-

non without regard to Lebanese

sovereignty.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the

Prime Minister, pointed out in

a series of public appearances

that the agreement signed on

May 17 last year had envisaged

security arrangement which

would safeguard Lebanon's

sovereignty. The abrogation

accordingly would hurt Leba-

non more than Israel, he said.

He was alluding to a pro-

vision that a regional brigade of

the Lebanese Army taking in

the pro-Israeli militias of the

late Major Saad Haddad, and

cooperating with the Israel

defence forces, would keep

Palestinian guerrillas away from

Israel's northern border.

Mr Shamir said Thursday

night at a conference of

presidents of US/Jewish organi-

zations held in Jerusalem. "We

shall now protect our interests

and ensure the security of our

northern border in the manner

which we deem necessary".

He emphasized that Israel

was not renouncing its signature

and remained ready to carry out

the agreement bilaterally.

Mr Shamir alluded to the

Shia Muslim and Druze revolutionaries who appeared to

have torpedoed the agreement as

"Lebanese proxies of the

Syrian regime" which he said,

"was bent on preventing an agree-

ment with Israel even at the

price of destroying Lebanon in

the process."

But Mr Uri Lubrani, coordi-

nator of Israeli policy in

Lebanon, told a seminar spon-

sored by the Jafft Centre for

Strategic Studies here that Israel

was attempting to salvage its

influence in Lebanon through

dialogue with all the communi-

ties instead of only with the

Christians, who had originally

sought the connection.

He said the Sunni and Shia

Muslims, and the Druze as well

as the Christians, were all

talking with Israel "each in a

different way, a different form

and in a different tone, but they

are talking".

The alternative security ar-

rangements the Israelis are

seeking to promote are with

local forces. The Shia Muslims

are a majority in southern

Lebanon. Mr Lubrani, who

lived for several years in a

hotbed of Shia fanaticism when

he was Israeli Ambassador in

Tehran during the Shah's

regime, said the extremists were

not the ones who had originally

signed the agreement.

He emphasized that security

cooperation would be possible

since the Shia interest in

protecting Lebanon's northern

border was not the same as

the Christians' interest in

protecting Israel's southern

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Glenn faces depressing Iowa campaign as Mondale takes big lead

From Nicholas Ashford, Des Moines



Given John Glenn's latest ratings in the opinion polls, the fact that his Iowa campaign offices are situated in a Red Cross building here seems appropriately prophetic. His seven Democratic rivals and local political pundits are already writing him off as a stretcher case.

This may be unfair and premature, but the latest Gallup Poll, which shows him trailing front runner Mr Walter Mondale by 35 points and level pegging with the Rev Jesse Jackson, make depressing reading for the former astronaut as he prepares for the first - and, for him, perhaps most important - test of his presidential campaign.

On Monday some 100,000 Iowa Democrats will vote in the state's precinct caucuses. This exercise in grass roots democracy is essentially parochial affair, but the caucuses have taken on immense political significance because they are the first judgment by voters in a presidential election year.

Although Iowa sends only 58 delegates to the Democratic National Convention, whoever wins on Monday night will receive enormous media attention.

There is an air of defeatism at his campaign office. Despite pouring hundreds of thousands of dollars into Iowa, his staff

admit he can only hope to come second and say they will be happy if he is less than 15 points behind Mr Mondale.

Not only has Glenn been plagued by organizational problems, but his middle of the road views have failed to move party members who will be turning out to vote on Monday. His performance in last week's debate organized by the *Des Moines Register* was considered the worst of all eight participants.

The main challenge to Mr Glenn comes from Mr Cranston and Mr Hart. Mr Cranston has the best organization after Mr Mondale.

However, he is seen as a one issue candidate (the nuclear freeze) and his age at 70 is against him. His poll ratings actually fell after his first television commercial was screened.

After being ingored for months, Mr Hart's campaign has finally started to take off. Although this has probably happened to late for him to gain second place, a third position would greatly enhance his chances for a strong showing in New Hampshire.

The other crucial question to be decided on Monday is whether Mr Glenn can stay in second place - and if not, who will overtake him.

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THE ARTS

Television

Killer Waiting (Yorkshire TV) was television's answer to *The Revenger's Tragedy*, in which the intended victim of murder seemed about to snatch victory from the barrel of the other man's gun.

He was supposed to be "made to suffer" before his death, and so this hour-long drama was essentially concerned with the war of nerves which developed between hunter and hunted: not a particularly pleasant theme, and the film itself took great pains to emphasize both the suspense and the brutality implicit in it.

It had everything to which we have become accustomed - ravaging dogs, mutilated bodies, suicide, men in flames, hallucinogenic drugs, explosions, encroaching madness and, of course, lots of blood. Even Belfast made its by now ritual appearance as a contemporary Hades. This was not, in other words, a programme suitable

WEEKEND CHOICE

The people in *People of the Islands* (tonight, Channel 4, 8.30pm) are the Eskimos of Hudson Bay. The islands are the Belchers. When they were last caught on film, the man behind the camera was Robert Flaherty; he was shooting *Nanook of the North*, and the year was 1922. Now Hugh Brody has followed in Flaherty's footsteps. No igloos for the Eskimos of 1984: no spectre of starvation. But the harpoon still bloodies the seal's breathing hole in the ice. All that is left of Flaherty's stay among the Inuit is the odd bullet case, riddled out of the stones on his old camp site. Flaherty would have approved of *People of the Island*. It has that same steady, affectionate and searching eye for the truth about Eskimo life

Peter Ackroyd

series will recall, it is set in a small advertising agency, Watson Wallish, and accordingly the action is set up, satirized and, if need be, carried forward by a marvellously funny and effective device: the inclusion of a string of professionally performed (Joss Ackland, Miriam Margolyes...) adverts which cruelly reproduce the style of the real thing if "real" is a word that can't be used in such a context.

This new series, just past its second episode, has made a grand start: Watson Wallish has been bought up, although dear Freddie, its proprietor, drunken and amnesiac as ever, typically omits to tell his staff, he's found out by accident from an item in *Campaign*. The new owners are a high-powered bunch and their top man a

Before, in comparison with whom the late Joseph Stalin might easily be mistaken for Bruce Forsyth, I look forward to making his further acquaintance, provided there is always several miles of radio wave between us.

Another thing that *Legal, Decent, Honest and Truthful* demonstrates is the blessing of a good script and so, for rather different reasons, does Radio 4's newest comedy series, *Don't Stop Now - It's Foundation* (Monday and Tuesday; producer, Alan Nixon) which is described as a cabaret. It can't have been overseen on the part

of the BBC's press information

which prejudiced me against this enterprise, since I only read it after I had done my listening, but it did help to confirm me in a very glut vision.

What I heard was a string of material, most of it mediocre,

blasted from my loudspeaker with the sort of large confidence and energy which in fact serves to depress the listener still further - perhaps because it suggests that the performers have no idea they are riding a loser. This effect was enhanced by the studio audience whose exceptionally raucous laughter persuaded me either that they

were getting something in their studio not available to me in my living room, or that they had conspired with the members of *Foundation* to give them a rave send-off, or that they had no idea that they were laughing at a loser. Or all three.

Over on Radio 2 a third comedy newcomer, *The Best of Bentine* (Sundays and Fridays; producer, Jamie Rix) does at least reveal - as you might hope and expect of a one-time Goon - a marked awareness of how to use the medium. But again I get the impression that the material is not what it might be: Bentine as solo writer has set himself too much to do and then, as solo performer, he has to try too hard to make it work.

In the past couple of weeks, Radio 3 has been putting out a series of somewhat variable

attraction under the general heading of *A Day in the Life of...* (producer, Penny Gold).

We heard how John Ruskin, A C Benson, Arnold Bennett and James Agate spent not so much

a day as a period in their lives.

Such events depend on two things for success: quality of script, and quality of reading.

The latter was always very serviceable, but not distinguished. So what separated these four programmes one from another were the scripts, or more exactly the impression given of each man by this selection from his own letters, diaries, etc. Ruskin and Bennett came over a bit ponderous, even tiresome; Benson and particularly Agate sharper, more mercurial. I felt the better for their company.

David Wade

House of Lords

Statutory or common law conspiracy

Regina v Ayres
Before Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Scarman, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Templeman [Speeches delivered February 16]

Having regard to sections 1 and 5 of the Criminal Law Act 1977 (as amended), a conspiracy to defraud at common law could only be charged when the evidence did not support any statutory, substantive conspiracy.

The House of Lords so held unanimously when applying the proviso to section 2(1) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 to dismiss an appeal by David Edward Ayres from the dismissal by the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice of Appeal, Mr Justice Kilner, Mr Justice Popplewell) (*The Times* December 8, 1983) of his appeal against his conviction on October 15, 1982, at Reading Crown Court (Judge Hilliard) of conspiracy to defraud.

Mr A D Rawley, QC, and Mr Christopher Wilson-Smith for the appellant; Mr Igor Judge, QC, and Mr Julian Vaughan for the Crown.

LORD BRIDGE said that Part I of the Criminal Law Act 1977 had effected a radical amendment of the law of criminal conspiracy.

Criminal conspiracies were now of four kinds only: (1) A conspiracy to commit one or more substantive criminal offences contrary to section 1 of the Act. (2) A conspiracy made as offence as such by some other enactment. (3) A common law conspiracy to defraud; section 5(2). (4) A common law conspiracy to corrupt public morals or outrage public decency; section 5(3).

The appeal was concerned with the relationship between conspiracies under (1) and (3) and the resolution of a conflict of judicial opinion as to where the line of demarcation should be drawn between statutory conspiracies under section 1 and common law conspiracies to defraud in relation to a few and more serious kinds of conspiracy, on which, on their face, appeared to be capable of falling within either category.

Some judicial dicta might be understood as suggesting that the choice whether to prosecute for a statutory conspiracy under section 1 or a common law conspiracy to defraud was one dictated by convenience and that in many cases both options might be open.

His Lordship had no hesitation at the outset in rejecting the argument. According to the true construction of the Act, an offence which amounted to a common law conspiracy to defraud must be charged as such and not as a statutory conspiracy under section 1. Conversely, a section 1 conspiracy could not be charged as a common law conspiracy to defraud.

The controversy first emerged in a ruling of Mr Justice Drake in *R v Quinn* ([1978] Crim LR 750) that a conspiracy to steal was properly charged as a common law conspiracy to defraud. A few months later the issue reached the Court of Appeal in *R v Walters* ([1979] 69 Cr App R 115).

In that case Lord Wigdery, Lord Chief Justice, referring to Mr Justice Drake's ruling, said: "... he took the view, which personally I support as at present advised that it is perfectly proper to regard a

conspiracy to steal as something within the conspiracy to defraud, and accordingly, therefore, if truly the offence is conspiracy to steal, the indictment is not rendered invalid merely because it charges a conspiracy to defraud."

Very soon after that the point was raised again in the Court of Appeal in *R v Waller* ([1979] 1 WLR 18) with the same result.

The instant case was one of a conspiracy to defraud an insurance company by falsely claiming that a lorry (insured for £2,500) and its contents (insured for £10,000) had been stolen. Carrying the conspiracy into effect might have involved the commission of other offences, but it certainly involved an attempt to obtain money from the insurers by deception or by false pretences by section 5(2). It was fairly clear that the offence was a common law conspiracy to defraud.

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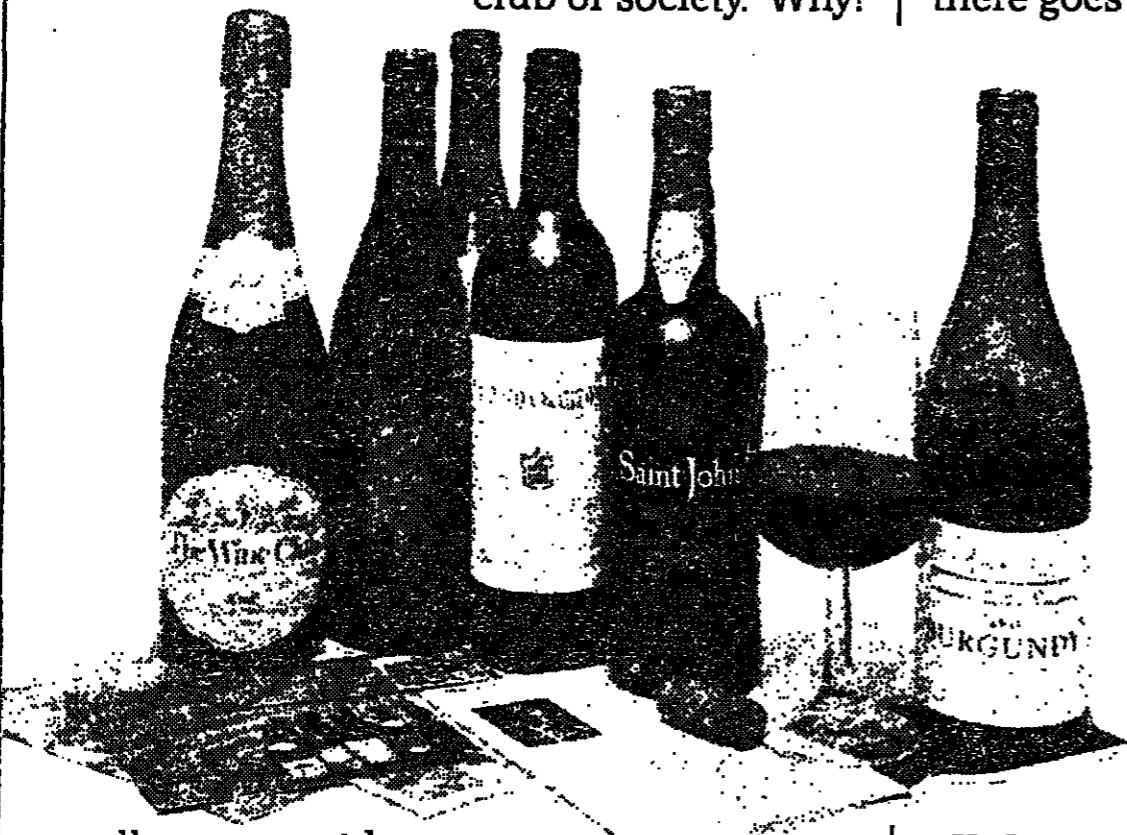
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Map from 'The World Atlas of Wine' (Mitchell Beazley). Author: Hugh Johnson.

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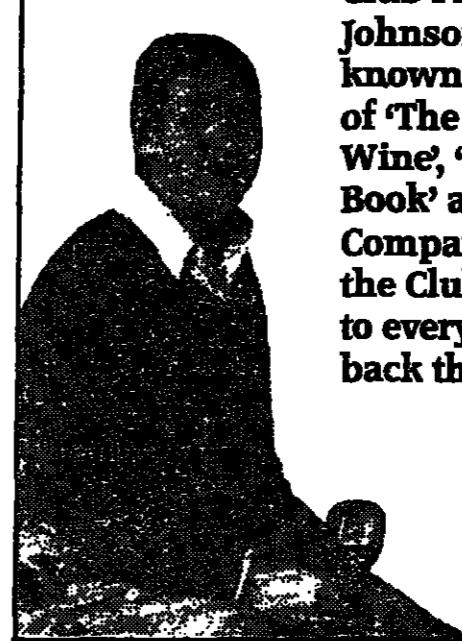
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T 18/2/84



SPORTING DIARY

The not so stable lads

They have a dope problem at Tobago racetrack. It affects the jockeys who have been known to turn up stoned out of their skulls and have been forced to step down from their mounts. However, the training gallops there would warn the heart of the British Sikh stable lad who cannot find a crash-hat big enough to fit over his turban. Many of the Trinidadian lads are Rastafarians, who cram messy heads of dreadlocks into their helmets.

Sent off

V. Abramov of Topolsk Dynamo has become the ultimate soccer hooligan. After a recent match, he was accosted in the town's best restaurant by a supporter who criticized his performance. Abramov took the man outside and stabbed him. He is now doing 10 years in jail.

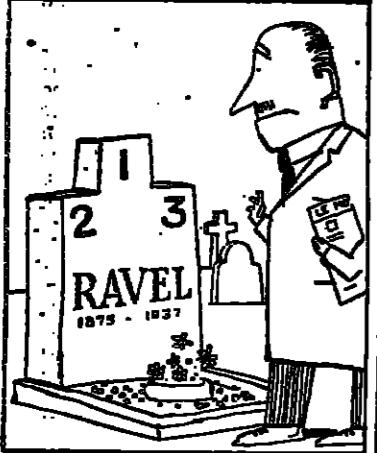
The Football Association's director of coaching, Charles Hughes, tells us that Brazilian football is "ill-conceived". Oh, for an Englishman as ill-conceived as Pele . . .

No count

Yes, we all know that 147 is the maximum snooker break, but what about billiards? Well, in 1907, Tom Reece managed 499.135. It took him 85 hours, 49 minutes. It was a "cradle break", made after jamming two balls in the jaws of a pocket, and is now illegal. And anyway, it doesn't really count, because there were no witnesses.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: from Tomasi David, a Rugby Union forward who switched to Rugby League: "The biggest difference between League and Union is that now I get my hangovers on Mondays instead of Sunday."

BARRY FANTONI



A lot brewing

Never let it be said that fast bowlers are anything but men of parts. Rupert Hanley, who joins Northamptonshire from South Africa next season, does more than just send down bouncers. "He's apparently a painter of some note," said the county's secretary-manager, Ken Turner. "But we are not fooled by that."

Hanley is part of a long tradition of multi-faceted speed merchants. We have John Snow, with his slim volume of verse; Bob Willis, fighting in the captain's tower, who added Dylan to his names by deed poll because of his admiration for the singer Bob Dylan; Senator Wes Hall of the Barbados parliament; Maurice Alom, tenor saxophonist in the jazz band Quintuplets Club Ramblers, who made several records; and the nineteenth century Australian S. M. J. Woods, who went native and spent much time in his adopted Somerset studying brewing.

Chris Smith is not yet in the master class. His last England innings was only the fourth slowest half-century for our boys. Trevor Bailey has done better, and so has Chris Tavaré - twice. *Maitre!*

Foggy foggy doo

Alan Morely has apparently scored more tries for Bristol than any one else. He passed the existing mark of 312 last Tuesday, scoring four tries in the match, but the match was played in such impossibly foggy conditions that no one saw any of them, and we must take them on trust.

Header hunting

A traveller returned from Borneo in a state of awe to tell me that, dominating one wall of a longhouse on the banks of the Sungai Niah river, is a picture of Manchester United football team.

What price glory? The Stock Exchange has formed its own American Football team, the Stock Exchange Stags. It offers coaching and full equipment for every closet Teo-Tall Jones who stalks the real corridors of power.

Jaw needed

It's a social problem, isn't it? Something to do with a mindless minority. Yes, I'm talking about the vexed subject of volleyball violence. The Scottish Volleyball Association is determined to act. Recent cases include a jaw "accidentally" broken, players swearing through the net, and, indeed, tearing the net down in their fury. One player was taken to court and "admonished" after slapping a referee. The player was given a suspension. The referee, however, is still banned.

Simon Barnes

BBC choice: Reith or wreath

Rumours about changes at the top of BBC Television have been steadily gaining credence. The corporation is seldom entirely free from such talk, but this time internal and external pressures have made a decisive move almost inevitable. And changes now rather than later make sense to clear the ground for the battle for a higher licence fee in March next year.

The present talk began when a minister - unidentified - suggested to lobby correspondents that *The Thorn Birds* was so bad that it might jeopardize the BBC's chance of a licence increase. The BBC squeezed denials out of the Home Office and Aubrey Singer, managing director of BBC Television, dismissed the gaff with the words, "It was a sort of mad frisson on somebody's part". In contrast to such public asides, in private the offender was metaphorically nailed to the pavement at Shepherd's Bush while obscenities were howled in his ears.

The Thorn Birds was no worse than *Dallas* or any number of other programmes, so clearly the whole story was absurd. But the intensity of the reaction gave the game away. The BBC now lives in a condition of irate defensiveness. Behind this lies a loss of direction, conviction and ideology. Deny it as its staff repeatedly do, there is no question that BBC Television is suffering a crisis of morale. For, on top of the ratings, licence fee and political worries, including the *Panorama* affair, there is also the dawning realisation that it has lost its monopoly of the intelligent. The thinkers and the articulate are now

more likely to be watching Channel 4 than BBC 2.

First the obvious problem. The advent of satellite and cable could mean the end of the licence-fee and advertising-based monopolies of the BBC and the IBA. The BBC takes the view that both are more remote than most people think and that they will need regulating as much as any other form of broadcasting.

But the technology links neatly with the aspirations of the New Right within the Government. It offers the possibility of a truly free market in broadcasting and has concentrated a large part of Tory thinking on the process whereby the present monopolies could be unwound. Yet the Tory paternalists are as strong as ever. In spite of its failings the BBC still represents to them a protection against unfettered pornography and violence. It appeals to their instincts for security.

After the end of March the corporation will be in its final year of the three-year spell with a £46 fee. It wants a big increase, but the political obstacles are enormous and the sheer difficulty of announcing that people have to find more money could well unseat even the paternalists.

Alternatives are being discussed by Tory backbenchers - specifically the privatization of BBC Radio, starting with Radio 1. To head this off, Alasdair Milne, the Director-General will soon be making speeches defending the paternalistic view of regulated broadcasting. The trick is to widen the debate to preempt even minor attempts at privatization. The point is, as Singer

has said, that the sheer simplicity of privatization as a political option, as opposed to licence-fee increases, would make this the thin end of a very thick wedge.

On the straight lump-sum argument the BBC has started badly. Television's share of the £46 fee income is £520m. Singer in *The Listener*, and the Controller of Programmes, Brian Wrenham, have pointed out that the IBA companies will receive £820m this year and £1,000m next. Singer has incorrectly called the figures net. But the IBA says they are gross and once the additional costs of running a large number of fragmented companies, not to mention Channel 4, are taken into account the figures for BBC and ITV are probably more or less comparable. In any case, overall cost comparisons between the two networks are well known in the business to be all but impossible. The BBC weakens its case by attempting them.

The defence has to be better than that. So the pressure is now on Milne to come up with some visionary answers. These will not only need to answer the outside critics but also to boost morale inside the corporation. For that is where the present crises are being most profoundly felt.

For the producers, technicians and performers it is clear that some kind of new creative impulse is desperately needed. They are likely for the moment only to detect internal management rivalry alternating with bouts of furious debates about ratings, money or politics.

The mind of management seems to be elsewhere and meanwhile there are an ominous number of leaving parties at Television Centre. Talent is being drained away by Channel 4 and the independent production sector.

Inevitably this creates a certain desperation among those who remain. Once they led a privileged existence, sanctioned by a proudly independent public service agency to pursue their own standards of excellence. But that specific *raison d'être* has been diluted. However much the BBC may claim that its very existence has led to higher standards by the independent sector, it is that very sector which now often produces the higher quality.

Deeply entrenched as it is in BBC habits and thinking, the present management is reluctant to acknowledge the imperative need to bring in fresh talent from outside and it lacks the external experience of previous champions of the corporation who brought the right kind of wider perspective to the argument.

Only by external criteria can the BBC really define and defend itself. Its responses based only on the self perpetuating logic of the television industry cut no ice because they seem compromised and are not set in a wider social context. They fail to exploit the broad public support which the BBC undoubtedly enjoys. Some form of the Reithian god needs to be reinstated to whom the BBC can appeal over everybody's heads. It is up to Milne, and whoever survives the reshuffle.

Bryan Appleyard

Champion of the petit homme

Diana Gleddes records the rise of Jean-Marie Le Pen, the far right leader who has suddenly become a force in French politics

Paris Suddenly, everyone is talking about Le Pen, leader of the extreme right National Front. His florid round face is everywhere, beaming, snarling, arrogant, benign. "Who is afraid of Jean-Marie Le Pen?", one magazine asked of the man who only a couple of years ago was lucky to get a score of people coming to listen to his speeches, and who now regularly fills halls to overflowing.

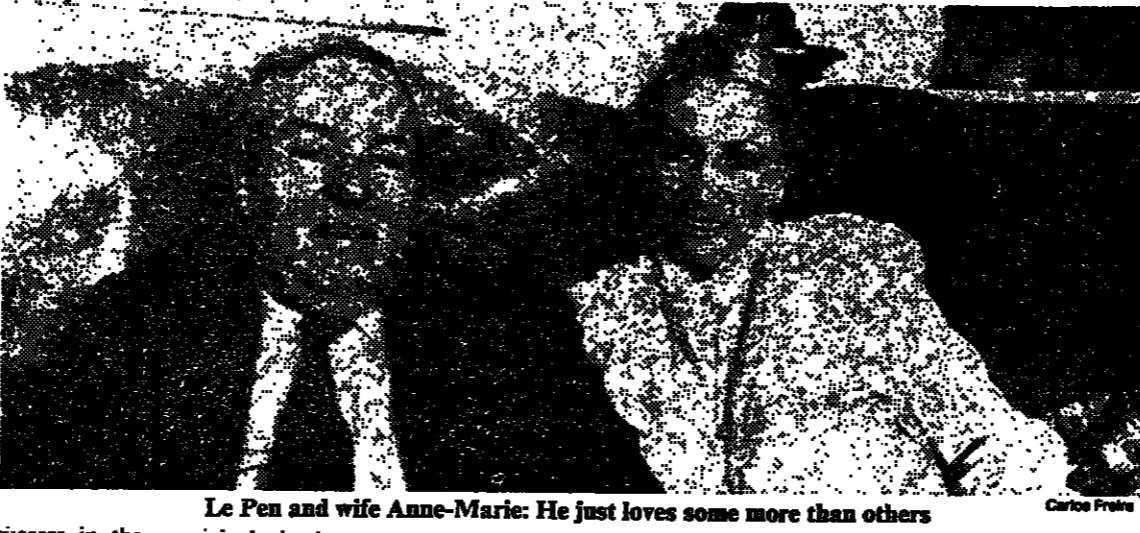
Last year, he was the "Barre phenomenon", which dominated talk in the Parisian salons, as Giscard d'Estaing's former prime minister rose to popularity after being one of the most despised politicians in the Fifth Republic. Now it looks as if Le Pen will take over as the "flavour of the year" after 25 years in the political wilderness. Most of the talk is far from complimentary, but any publicity is good for Le Pen at the moment.

The polarization of French political life after the Socialist election victory in 1981, coupled with the deepening of the economic crisis and aggravation of East-West tension, have catapulted the National Front from a marginal party to a political force to be reckoned with.

The Front's nationalistic, anti-communist, anti-immigrant line seems to be attracting a growing band of voters fed up with all the traditional parties - appealing to the little man, the uneducated *petit bourgeois*, who feels he has somehow been forgotten, fears the rise in crime and unemployment and revere, or at least pays lip service to, family, hard work, law and order, and *la patrie*.

There are, too, the young hangers-on, the bully boys who can be seen in force at every National Front rally with their short back and sides and their black leather jackets. They handclap in rhythm and deliriously chant "Le Pen! Le Pen!". They whistle and boo when the name of any politician outside the ranks of the National Front is mentioned (with the loudest cat-calls reserved for the more moderate right-wing leaders), cry for the blood of the "communist murderers", and applaud loudest when speakers inveigh against our country by immigrants.

In the past year, the National Front has scored a series of dramatic victories, starting with Le Pen's own



Le Pen and wife Anne-Marie: He just loves some more than others

success in the municipal elections last March when he won 11 per cent of the vote in the heavily immigrant twentieth arrondissement of Paris - the highest vote for an extreme-right candidate in any election since Tixier-Vignancour, Le Pen's former mentor, won 5 per cent of the vote in the 1965 presidential elections.

People said it was a flash in the pan, or that it was simply part of a racist backlash that was sweeping the country. But then came the National Front's successes in the municipal by-elections in Dreux (17 per cent) and Aulnay-sous-Bois (9 per cent), followed last December by the parliamentary by-election in the Morbihan in Brittany where Le Pen won 12 per cent of the vote in a predominantly rural constituency with hardly a single immigrant.

The character of Le Pen himself plays an important role. The son of a Breton fisherman, he has never lost the common touch though he now lives in great luxury in a nineteenth century hunting lodge in St Cloud on the outskirts of Paris. He inherited the house eight years ago, along with a sizable fortune, from an admirer of his politics whose family unsuccessfully contested the will. He also runs his own recording company, specializing in historic archives, which has got him into trouble more than once for its recordings of fascist songs and speeches. Le Pen answers critics by saying that the company has also published speeches by Churchill, de Gaulle and even Mitterrand.

Le Pen is too young to fight in the Second World War, but after school under the Jesuits in Brittany, and a degree in law from Paris, he joined the army as a paratrooper. He fought in Vietnam, Suez and Algeria, and is extremely nostalgic about military life, regretting the passing of France's imperial past. As part of the right-wing Poujadist movement in the mid-1950s, he was elected to

parliament at the age of 27. He joined a succession of right-wing groups, finally founding the National Front in 1978. With his tall, bulky but solid body, his single blue eye (the other eye was lost in one of the many terrorist attacks against him), and his greying blond hair, he cuts an impressive figure. At public meetings, surrounded by admirers, he can exude a charm and warmth rare among French politicians. He is articulate, amusing, a *bon raconteur*. But when attacked, he can retaliate with ferocity.

Last Monday, after years of persistent requests, Le Pen was finally granted his first full-length television interview, to the disgust of commentators who say this is bestowing a mark of respectability on the man.

Questions on racism, anti-semitism and fascism dominated the one-and-a-half hour programme, despite Le Pen's desire to talk about other issues he says he is concerned with: rising taxes, the threat to farmers of the EEC, falling educational standards and the government's plans to abolish the predominantly Catholic private schools, the need for a return of the death penalty, the moral decadence of modern society, the falling birthrate in western countries in the face of the exploding populations of the Third World.

Le Pen hotly denies that he is racist or anti-semitic. "It is simply," he is fond of explaining, "that I love my daughters more than my nieces, my nieces more than my neighbours, my neighbours more than the citizens in the next-door town, and those people more than foreigners."

As for the Jews, he says he is

opposed to any form of persecution for reasons of religion or race. But I don't see why I should oblige me to like Mme Veil's abortion laws, Chagall's painting, or Mendes France's politics.

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The fine art of spending \$1.5 million a week

Gentry desperately needs good paintings. Its collection of classical antiquities and French decorative arts is superb. But thanks largely to the somewhat eccentric taste of its founder, its paintings are for the most part second-rate. Hence the museum's anonymous bid of £1.8m for the Duccio.

The Getty sale is causing renewed shock waves throughout an international art world still reeling from the effects of the original Getty bequests. On its cliff overlooking the Pacific in Malibu, California, the Romanesque villa which houses the J. Paul Getty Museum was originally endowed to the tune of \$1.6 billion in Getty's will. It is required by federal tax laws to spend 4% per cent of that figure annually to keep its tax-free status - a total of \$65m a year - making the Getty far and away the world's richest museum.

The sale to Texaco increases that endowment to more than \$2 billion and the annual cash to be spread around the international art sales to around \$85m a year - \$1.5m a week.

In London, the £700,000 donated to keep Duccio's *Crucifixion* out of the Getty clutches is no doubt just the beginning. For the fact is that the

Museum of Art, said: "We do not intend to plunder and pillage far and wide. We couldn't do that even if we did try . . . the era of making large collections is probably over".

The Los Angeles Times recently carried out a survey among some of the principal US museums and galleries to gauge their response to the Getty's latest windfall. The director of the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City said: "We could be affected in the field of European decorative arts and old masters, but at least the Getty doesn't buy oriental art."

Earl Powell of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, who is trying to build up that institution's collection of seventeenth century French and Italian paintings, also chose to look on the bright side. "At least they don't collect contemporary, Asian, Indian and Islamic works. All of these areas are important. No one is going to roll over and die."

Most of the competition actually praised the Getty's restraint. "I think the Getty is extraordinarily impressive in its responsibilities in pursuing the international art market," said Evan Turner, director of the Cleveland Museum. "It is

very much aware of its powers. I know of cases where they've been offered things at prices they thought excessive and declined."

John Walsh agrees that his museum can be as frugal as the next. "We negotiate prices like everyone else. Dealers will tell you we are rather concerned about prices."

Hoping to allay his colleagues' fears, Walsh has announced that a large chunk of the Getty's money will not go to art works, but to the new \$100m museum to be built on a 160-acre site on a hilltop in the Los Angeles suburb of Brentwood, which will incorporate the Getty's latest windfall. The director of the J. Paul Getty Centre for the History of Art and the Humanities and Conservation Institute. The purchase of an additional 600 acres adjacent to the property, earmarked for a fine arts centre, has also been announced.

The new institute will house an international art research library and an art library will ultimately house 450,000 volumes.

Some rival museum directors have suggested that the Getty could be even more ambitious internationally. "It could become a little Unesco," suggests Michael Kan, deputy director of the Detroit Institute of Art. "It could restore the Parthenon and other ancient monuments."

Ivor Davis

Building up an art collection in Britain today, Page 11.

Simon Lyster

Falklands plunder that has to stop

I have just returned from a month in the Falklands where there is a growing sense of frustration at the failure of the British Government to safeguard from foreign plundering one of the islands' most important natural resources: their offshore fish stocks.

The seas around the Falklands and South Georgia are some of the best fishing grounds in the world. Until a few years ago they were largely untouched, but they are now being heavily exploited by Polish, Spanish, Russian and Japanese trawlers. A vitally important marine ecosystem is being threatened, and neither Britain nor the Falklands is receiving even short-term financial rewards.

Why? - because the British Government has failed to declare a 200-mile fishing zone around the islands and their dependencies. Its responses based only on the self perpetuating logic of the television industry cut no ice because they seem compromised and are not set in a wider social context. They fail to exploit the broad public support which the BBC undoubtedly enjoys. Some form of the Reithian god needs to be reinstated to whom the BBC can appeal over everybody's heads. It is up to Milne, and whoever survives the reshuffle.

The right of states to declare 200-mile fishing zones around their coasts is now firmly established as



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

CONSENT AND THE LEVY

Mr Len Murray and the chairman of the TUC Employment Committee, Mr Bill Keys, have every reason to be pleased with themselves. They have done a deal with the Employment Secretary, Mr Tom King, in which he has agreed not to legislate to free individual trade unionists from their present obligation to pay the political levy unless they contract out of doing so. Whether those who have to pay the levy to a political party they do not support, and who fear the consequences to themselves of taking action not to do so, will be equally pleased is another matter. It is certainly questionable whether the principle of "Democracy in Trade Unions", the title of the Green Paper in which the idea of such legislation was first mooted a year ago, has been well served by Mr King's bargain.

The prospect raised in the Green Paper was whether the government should seek to change the law by replacing contracting out with contracting in. On three other propositions made in "Democracy in Trade Unions", the government is legislating in the Trade Union Bill which is now in its Committee stage in the House of Commons. Union executives, including voting general secretaries, will have to be directly elected by members at least once every five years. Strikes will have to be endorsed (within four weeks) by a secret ballot of members and if it is not, civil law immunity will be removed from the action. Finally, there will have to be a ballot of members every five years to obtain consent for funding a political party.

Members of unions which have balloted for a political levy, however, will still have to contract out. At the general election, the Conservative manifesto simply stated that the government would legislate against contracting out if it failed to obtain satisfactory undertakings from the TUC that arrangements would be made for the system of contracting out to work fairly and equitably.

Mr King now, presumably, thinks he has secured such undertakings from Mr Murray and Mr Keys who have offered to ensure that a code of guidelines about the right to contract out is issued to trade union members. The deal is still to be ratified by the TUC general council and the government's formal position is that it will still legislate if it finds that the voluntary arrangements do not work satisfactorily. But for the moment, the trade union Bill can go forward unimpeded by the controversy that would have been caused by legislation to replace contracting in with contracting out.

The wish to get the Bill through quickly is no doubt one of the government's reasons for compromising with the TUC

SACRED AND PROFANE

Video nasties don't come any nastier. A naked long-haired boy with a girlish face is kneeling down and with sharp knife stripping the skin from a helpless half-human figure hung like a butcher's carcass upside down from a tree. The boy is working almost tenderly, thrusting his calm face close to his victim, but the blood streams down to the ground, where a grotesquely diminutive lapdog eagerly licks it up. Titian's *Flaying of Marsyas*, perhaps the rarest and most wonderful of innumerable rare and wonderful paintings assembled in the Royal Academy's great Venetian exhibition, has a subject which is almost intolerably cruel, and conveys it with a most vehement ferocity.

It has been interesting to watch visitors to the exhibition (which has just three more weeks to run) shying away from the indecent life-sized spectacle, or nervously themselves to peer at it in perplexity. "They should have left it where it was," one loudly declared: for 300 years the picture had hung almost unnoticed in a Central European fastness almost as inaccessible and forbidding as Castle Dracula - whose master would certainly have found the work congenial.

The strength of this reaction is striking in an exhibition which, for all the Venetian's delight in all things voluptuous, has the usual Renaissance share of sacred and secular carnage. The source of the feeling lies in an uneasy sense that the artist very well saw how obscene the punishment was, yet somehow approved of it. The figures who rejoice or concur in the deed are unmistakably noble; stranger still, the face of the hamstrung victim is wide-eyed, fully-conscious, composed, almost ecstatic like that of the god.

instead of legislating on contracting out. Another reason is the fear that legislation to require contracting in, which would put the Labour Party's political funding at risk, would in fairness have had to be matched by legislation to give shareholders greater control over company donations to the Conservative Party. Yet such counter-balancing legislation (which would have been necessary in fairness) would not have been much for the Tory Party to fear. A stampede of shareholders opposing financial help to the principal party espousing the cause of private industry would hardly be likely.

The question now is what is the TUC's assurances and code of guidance will be worth in practice. The extent to which union members are inhibited by the need to contract out is indicated by the great disparity between the large number of trade unionists who vote for parties other than Labour compared with the number who use their right not to pay the political levy to the Labour Party. Most union members must already be well aware that they are entitled to deduct the political levy from their union dues and most of those who do not exercise the right when they would like to cannot simply be suffering from inertia.

Anyone with knowledge of trade union affairs is aware that there is great psychological pressure not to contract out. Non-conforming individuals do not want to have their cards marked by refusal to toe the union line; they fear that non-conformity will disqualify from union office and influence quite apart from the possible effect on their jobs.

Mr Murray and Mr Keys were reported as saying that the proposed guidance was in many ways merely a repetition of what the unions already carried out, and that of course is the trouble. There is no reason to doubt that the letter of the agreement with Mr King will be mostly observed but there is reason to doubt whether in spirit the guidelines will be worth very much.

The provision that union members would pay a political levy (in practice to the Labour Party) was established in the first Trade Union Act in 1913. At the time it made sense: the Labour Party was the party sent to Westminster by the unions and political funding was a necessary launching pad. But as Labour became one of the two principal contenders for power, claiming to stand for more than a narrow union interest, the case against contracting out strengthened. In 1927 the position was reversed to contracting in, which persisted until 1946 when the Attlee government again returned to the 1913 position. But one speech by a Labour member in the House of Commons on reversal is well worth recalling

dise. Dante makes an invocation, in proper epic form. But he makes it not to the Christian God (who might be presumed to know his way round the place better than any pagan deity who had never set his sights higher than Parnassus), but to Apollo. Of course, the invocation is to God through Apollo, so to speak (the poet even addresses him as "Father", with a double significance). But it would be natural at such a moment to stress the aspects that the two had in common. It is astonishing that at the moment of making such an identification, Dante should bring out the skeleton in the cupboard:

*Come into my heart, and so breathe
As you did when you extracted
Marsyas*

*From the skin in which his limbs
were enclosed.*

No explanation of these strange lines is satisfactory which does not take full account both of the extreme physical violence of the act, and of the way the whole passage seems to merge it into the gentle process of divine guidance, inspiration or possession, which the poet is praying for. The image draws in several relevant ideas, but the strongest one is that the relationship between God and the artist, and by extension between God and man, is in some sense like a flaying. The cast of mind which could make such an association may seem very remote - as far as possible from milk-and-water piety. Upside down and amazed, humiliated to the utmost degree, the shaggy satyr has come face to face with God, who is most tenderly and painfully stripping away the bestial side of him. Whether this reflection makes the actual masterpiece any less repellent must be left to the spectator to decide.

At one of the most solemn points of his vast poem, when he is nerving himself to embark on the representation of the inapprehensible landscape of Para-

Tory scrutiny of the BBC

From Lord Greenhill of Harrow
Sir, Labour Party critics of Mr John Gummer's dispute with the BBC will recall their own, not dissimilar, row with the corporation over the programme *Yesterday's Men* in the early seventies.

Most fair-minded persons thought their protests were then largely justified. Whilst the BBC never admitted error, I was able to observe some years later, as a governor of the BBC, that these protests had a considerable and beneficial effect on the management.

All political parties are entitled from time to time to challenge the programme makers.

Yours etc,
GREENHILL OF HARROW
House of Lords.
February 15.

From Mr John V. C. Butcher

Sir, The letter which you published today (February 15) did not reveal that Sir Hugh Greene, its author, was Director General of the BBC from 1960 to 1968 - perhaps you assumed that all your readers remembered this!

Sir Hugh cites a 1962 instance when the minister then responsible for broadcasting threatened the BBC after a particular broadcast, but was (rightly) admonished by the then Prime Minister. But Sir Hugh is making a major blunder to assume that it follows that the chairman of the political party from whose ranks the Government is drawn is responsible for the BBC's political changes.

The government can claim

that, from the start, it has only threatened to legislate if the unions refused satisfactory concessions. The principal reason for the bargain struck is the government's belief that the "softly-softly" approach to union reform started by Mr James Prior has worked and should not be put at risk. It does not want to push the unions too hard at the beginning of a year in which standing firm on wage settlements (3 per cent in the public sector in cash terms) is economically vital. The trouble is that it risks losing the momentum of union reform. Dealing with restrictions on wages (including by wage councils) would be a more sensible approach to wages policy now, and also of more help to employment since the unions are more concerned to raise the wage levels of those in work that to help provide work for those who will not contain the works of other artists.

Yours truly,

JOHN BUTCHER,
7 Bleheim Close,
Wimslow Park,
Wimslow,
Cheshire.
February 15.

Bequest to Tate

From Mr R. Ashley P. Banks

Sir, I was particularly interested in your report (February 8) concerning the Tate Gallery possibly losing a bequest of 25 paintings (worth apparently some £12m), from the widow of Clifford Still because they are having great difficulty meeting her insistence that they are permanently exhibited in rooms that do not contain the works of other artists.

Once again this seems to highlight the chronic shortage of space that both London galleries and the older London-based museums are suffering.

At the same time there are many country houses, often denuded of their contents and in many cases with well proportioned rooms and in beautiful settings, that can be acquired for a fraction of the cost of any proposed extension to the existing London galleries.

I have often wondered whether any of the London galleries or museums have ever considered acquiring any of these houses which have sadly been neglected or destroyed over the last 40 years.

Yours etc,
R. ASHLEY P. BANKS,
Palace Farm House,
Witham-on-the-Hill,
Bourne,
Lincolnshire.
February 8.

Fate of Temple Bar

From Mrs Frances Perry

Sir, Could we not, please, put an end to this tedious debate about the future of Temple Bar? Hardly anybody comes to see it (I have lived all my life within a few hundred yards of it) and nobody seems to want it back in London.

As the Americans have appeared willing to subscribe a lot of money to restore or move it, why do we not sell it to the Americans as we did London Bridge and they could erect it perhaps on the fringe of Central Park, New York, or on some other well chosen site where millions of people might see it?

Yours sincerely,
FRANCES PERRY,
Bulls Cross Cottage,
3 Bulls Cross,
Enfield,
Middlesex.
February 10.

Costs of housing

From Mr D.J. Lewis

Sir, The current debate on housing benefits emphasises not only the need to assist those who are in financial need for proper housing but even more the need to reduce the effective cost of housing so as to reduce the fundamental need for such benefits.

Your article today states that "no government... has dated tackle tax relief on mortgages...". To the extent that decisions are taken based on what is or what is not "politically acceptable", the perpetuation of distorted subsidies is morally unacceptable. Mortgage interest and rent payments should either both be subject to tax relief or neither. Therein lies one of the great intractable problems of housing in this country. May I propose the following on a bipartisan basis:

1. The phased abolition of tax relief on mortgages.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Troublesome time in countryside

From Mr N. Barber

Sir, My near neighbour, Lord Melchett, has started an interesting debate about farming and the countryside. He claims that what he preaches at Courtyard Farm, but is perhaps short on experience of the public having access to the farm.

Like many other farmers in Norfolk we have Peddars Way running through the farm so for over 50 years, since my late father-in-law started farming here, the public, in large numbers, have been walking over our farm.

Just after the war he decided to clear a part of Peddars Way as it was so overgrown that it was becoming impassable. Having done this work he received a letter from the local council complaining that he had cut the hedges (rest assured they are still there) and requesting him to make arrangements to restore it to its original condition.

He told me that in the letter he had agreed to do this provided that the council would supply him with 1,000 rats and 400 rabbits to enable him to complete the task required of him. Nothing was heard from them.

The farmers have to make a living - not easy in these times: the public want cheap food and dislike subsidies, probably just as much as the farmers. The conservationists resist change which is necessary for increased efficiency, which is not the same as increased production. What nobody has done is to answer the question - who pays?

Yours faithfully,
N. BARBER,
Newcome-Baker Farms Ltd,
Sedgeford,
Norfolk.
February 14.

path. On several occasions several hundred motor bikes have gone down this "footpath" and when one of my neighbours pointed out that not only were they not on Peddars Way but on private land which had been laid down to grass at great expense for a specific purpose, and which they were cutting up seriously, he was threatened with physical violence.

So you see, Sir, there is another side to the coin and if you check up carefully in Arthur Young's *General View of the Agriculture of Norfolk*, published in 1804, which gives the previous cropping of the fields on my farm and Summerfield next door, the acreages have mostly remained the same.

Similarly, if you consult maps of all the clear and unequivocal statements made in the procedural debates in 1979, Sarah Hogg (feature, February 9) seeks to perpetuate the myth that the Government Whips exert a considerable influence on the selection of members for departmental select committees.

The fact is that whilst the Whips are responsible for appointments to the older select committees like the PAC (Public Accounts Committee) and the Procedural Committee, the Committee of Selection has exercised total discretion in nominating Conservative members for the departmental select committees ever since their inception.

In this Parliament and the last the Conservative selection was made only from those who sent a written application to the Committee of Selection. Additions suggested by any other source were not accepted. Four of the senior Privy Councillors named by Sarah Hogg could not be considered for selection since they did not apply to the committee.

If Sarah Hogg would take the trouble to look at the membership of the 14 select committees she will find a fair proportion of experienced backbench members who can in no way be described as a Whips Office first choice.

Yours truly,
PHILIP HOLLAND,
KENNETH LEWIS,
House of Commons.
February 13.

Telephone tapping

From Dr Andrew Drzemczewski

Sir,

In today's article on telephone

tapping (February 16) Bryan Stanley mentioned that the Post Office Engineering Union has ensured that the European Human Rights Court is aware of the POEU's repeated efforts to promote change in the law. This the POEU has done by successfully invoking in the *Malone* case a little-noticed change in the rules of court.

The POEU did so in January, having obtained advice and assistance from Interights and Justice, two London-based human-rights organisations. This is the first time in the court's history that a formal "third party" intervention has been successfully invoked.

An interesting point might be worth making with respect to the *Malone* case (oral hearings on Monday): On the assumption that the court finds a violation of the Convention, legislative or other governmental action may not be forthcoming for several years. In these circumstances, do not the present POEU legislative proposals make sense?

Yours faithfully,

ANDREW DRZEMCZEWSKI:
The Polytechnic of North London,
Department of Law,
Ladbroke House,
Highbury Grove, N5.
February 16.

A breath of India

From Dr G. H. W. Rylands

Sir, How diverted E. M. Forster would have been if Ferdinand Mount's trade (feature, February 13) and would surely have characterised in a novel the young, clever, so superior despiser.

Let there be sequels. Spenser's chivalry, Henry James and the English Upper Classes - are not these "pastes"? Some years ago Kingsley Amis exposed the bogus in Keats's "Ode to a Nightingale"; and Audey concluded that Tennyson had no brains. More raids by Pussy Cat among the bourgeois moulting pigeons!

I am unashamedly at one with the vast majority who admire and intensely enjoy the *Quare*, both in print and presentation.

Yours etc,
G. H. W. RYLANDS,
King's College,
Cambridge.
February 14.

Safety precaution

From Mr M. G. R. Stamford

Sir, In view of the claim by the British Telecommunications Unions Committee in their advertisement on page 6 of *The Times* of February 16 that "British Telecom provides the backbone to our defence communications systems", should not unions be banned from British Telecom on security grounds?

Yours faithfully,
M. G. R. STAMFORD,
14a Pelham Road,
Grimsby,
South Humberside.
February 16.

Love locked out

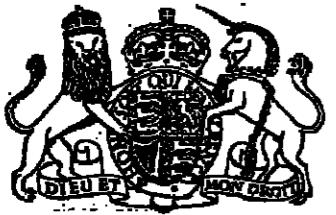
From Mr Antony R. Kench

Sir, I was interested to receive a Valentine card which on opening proved to be from "Expresspost" the Royal Mail's same-day courier service - ring now and find out just how fast and efficient Expresspost is.

It arrived on February 15.

Yours faithfully,

ANTONY R. KENCH,
Geico Limited,
Geico House,
25-29 High Street,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.
February 15.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 17: Mr. P. R. Fearn was receive in audience by The Queen and kissed hands on his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Havanas.

Mrs. Fearn had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Mr. Justice Scott had the honour of being received as a Justice of the High Court of Justice when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood.

Mr. P. E. R. Fearn was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands on his appointment as British High Commissioner to the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Mrs. Rosting had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

The Right Hon. Sir Robert Muldoon (Prime Minister of New Zealand) had an audience of The Queen when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George.

The Right Hon. Sir Robert and Lady Muldoon had the honour of being invited to luncheon with The Queen.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the World Wildlife Fund International, attended by the Viscount Hambleden, arrived at Heathrow Airport, London this afternoon in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight from the Netherlands.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr. P. D. N. Solly and Lady Sarah Lytton The engagement is announced between David, youngest son of the late Lieutenant-colonel R. J. N. Solly and of Mrs. Solly, of The Old Rectory, Langton Long, Blandford, Dorset, and Sarah, youngest daughter of the Earl and Countess of Lytton, of Keeper Knights, Crawley, Sussex.

Mr. N. H. Creswick and Miss Z. S. V. Gask The engagement is announced between Neil, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. A. F. W. Creswick, of Sydney, Australia, and Zoe, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Gask, of Hampton Wick, Surrey.

Mr. S. J. Garner and Miss L. A. Collings The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of John and Maureen Garner, of Horncastle, Lincolnshire, and Louise, daughter of Derrick and Jean Collings, of Rhosneigr, Cardiff.

Mr. J. F. Graham and Miss C. C. Brierley The engagement is announced between James Francis, younger son of Dr. and Mrs. W. V. Graham, of Hook House Farm, Blandford, Dorset, and Christine Cherry, daughter of the late Mr. Martin Brierley and of M. G. H. Martin, Gardner Cottage, Adare, co. Limerick.

Mr. J. Grout and Miss E. A. Berkeley The engagement is announced between John, youngest son of the late Mr. A. E. Grout and of Mrs. E. M. Grout, of Bromfield, Essex, and Anne, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Berkeley, of La Sigueme, Riberac, France.

Mr. J. C. C. Meggs and Miss C. L. Hirst The engagement is announced between Jonathan, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Meggs, of Great Barr, Birmingham, and Claire, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. J. Hirst, of Canford Cliffs, Dorset.

Church news The Rev Marcus Braybrooke to be Executive Director of the Council of Christians and Jews.

The Rev. Dr. A. Astbury, Vicar of Luddesley with Luttrells, diocese of Hereford, has been appointed to the Canonry of St. Asaph, Principal of the Non-Resident Clergy of St. Asaph, and Non-Resident Canon of St. Asaph, to be Vicar of St. Asaph, and to have preference to the cure of the parish of Luttrells.

The Rev. P. H. Aldred, Vicar of Southwick, Great Yarmouth, and Rural Dean of Lowestoft, has been appointed to the Canonry of St. Edmund, Bishop of Norwich, and Non-Resident Canon of St. Edmund, to be Vicar of St. Edmund, and to have preference to the cure of the parish of Southwick.

The Rev. J. C. Meggs, Canon of Clifton, and Canon of St. Asaph, has been appointed to the Canonry of St. Martin, York, to be Vicar of St. Martin, York, and Canon of St. Asaph, to be Vicar of St. Edmund, Bishop of Norwich, and Non-Resident Canon of St. Edmund, to be Vicar of St. Edmund, and to have preference to the cure of the parish of St. Edmund.

The Rev. P. B. R. Hartman, referred to be Canon of St. Edmund, Bishop of Norwich, and Non-Resident Canon of St. Edmund, to be Vicar of St. Edmund, and to have preference to the cure of the parish of St. Edmund.

The Rev. C. M. Buck, retired, permission to officiate in the cure of St. Edmund.

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12,13
Travel: Five weekends away from it all, from the hills of Flintshire to the twin towns of Buda and Pest.

14,15
Travel: Trekking in the Andes, a taste of the Algarve; Values on wallpaper with a history; Eating Out and Drink

THE TIMES Saturday

18 - 24 FEBRUARY 1984 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS



Sir William Burrell (left) was the 'millionaire magpie' who amassed the most far-reaching art collection in Britain. How did he do it? Peter Waymark reports

Collecting down to a fine art

The urge to collect, whether it be matchbox labels or old masters, is something that is implanted in the genes, usually surfaces at an early age and, once there, is almost impossible to shake off.

In the 1870s a 15-year-old boy was given some pocket money by his father to spend on something useful, like a cricket bat. To the horror of his stern and unimaginative parent, he came back with a painting. This proved to be no passing fancy, for he was still buying works of art up to his death more than 80 years later.

The boy was William Burrell, eventually to be Sir William, who made his fortune as a shipowner in Glasgow and decided to spend a considerable part of it on what is probably the largest, certainly the widest-ranging, art collection ever assembled in Britain. Burrell may have been unique in the size and scope of his collection but not in the way he put it together. Much of the story of art collecting in this country over the past 100 years can be told by reference to him. He is a text-book to be marked and digested by succeeding generations.

The Burrell collection would not have been possible without money, but that is by no means the whole story. Burrell was a brilliant businessman, and he carried his business acumen over into his dealings in the world of art. He took over the management of the family firm with his brother in 1885. The secret of their success was a flair for reading the market. They bought their ships during a recession, when they could get them for the lowest prices; then, when the economy revived, they were all set to attract cargoes and able to undercut their rivals.

The company would enjoy several years of profitable trading, sell the ships while the boom was still on and bide its time until the next recession, when the cycle would start all over again. It took nerve, for economic ebbs and flows are never entirely predictable; but Burrell guessed right in the 1890s and again in the early years of this century, and he made a final killing during the First World War.

He invested his share of the proceeds shrewdly and from then on devoted his life to buying art, applying the same sort of principles to his new enterprise as he had to shipping. As with the ships, so with art treasures, Burrell bought cheap. He was constantly on the lookout for a bargain. He would "circle round" a potential acquisition so as not to reveal his interest to rival bidders and risk raising the price.

He would haggle and seek second opinions. He would let something go rather than pay what he considered was too much. Sometimes he missed outstanding pieces because he was quibbling over a few hundred pounds that he could well afford; on the other hand, he was rarely fooled.

As with his ships, Burrell was able to buy during periods of depression when prices had fallen. He bought between the wars and just after the Second World War, when big collections were being broken up and there were a lot of works on the market. He also had a nose for buying things before it was fashionable to collect them.

The Burrell collection contains 22 paintings by Degas. The most expensive, a picture of ballet dancers called "The Rehearsal", cost Burrell a mere £500. That was in 1926 when Degas was not yet a name to conjure with. Today it could fetch £3m. Other Degas pictures that Burrell paid peanuts for are now worth £1m to £500,000 each, as is his Cézanne, "Le Château de Médan", acquired in 1937 for £5,500.

There are striking examples



Three Burrell treasures: The life-size Chinese stoneware figure of a lohan, or disciple of Buddha, dates from 1484 and is glazed in green, cream and amber; the Temple Pyx (top right) is a twelfth-century bronze of three sleeping soldiers; and the Nativity (bottom right) is a German limewood sculpture c 1500

in other areas, too. A twelfth-century French stained-glass panel depicting the prophet Jeremiah was snapped up by Burrell for £14. It could now fetch £250,000. A Ming ewer, one of several pieces of Chinese porcelain he bought after the Second World War, cost him £85; recently a similar piece was valued at between £200,000 and £250,000.

Burrell undoubtedly conformed to the music-hall caricature of the mean Scotsman. When a salesman arrived with a new refrigerator, the great collector immediately started talking about discounts, 25 per cent off here, another 10 per cent there. It may have been an unattractive side to his character, but it did enable him to compete with the great American collectors, Frick, Mellon, Morgan and Hearst, with only a fraction of their outlay.

The Burrell collection contains 8,000 items and today could be worth as much as £100m. His average expenditure on new acquisitions between 1911 and 1957 was £20,000 a year; and the most he paid for a single item was £14,500 for a "Portrait of a Gentleman", attributed to Franz Hals, in 1948.

Burrell has been called a "millionaire magpie". The first word may be accurate but the second is not. He was no random collector but a man who systematically built in

areas which appealed to him. His taste extended from the ancient civilizations of the Middle East, Greece and China to Rodin and Cézanne.

He had little academic knowledge of art, but he knew what he liked and that was what he bought. According to Dr Richard Marks, keeper of the Burrell collection, "he had a genuine love for objects, even if he did not always know very much about them". According to the late Lord Clark, "he was not simply an amasser, he was an aesthete".

A child of the mid-Victorian era, Burrell did not die until 1958. No one in Britain during his lifetime, or since, has been able to touch him as a collector. Not even Americans of far greater wealth, such as J. Paul Getty, have covered so wide a field. Other collectors may have had better individual pieces, but few are so catholic in their scope.

If Burrell was out on his own, he was by no means the only important collector in Glasgow in his time, which reflects the money made in that city from business and commerce. More recently, however, there have been remarkably few native collectors of any significance, and some of the largest collections have been the work of outsiders.

Prominent among these was Count Antoine Seilern. Though born in England, of an American mother and Austrian father, he studied art in Vienna and lived there until Hitler annexed Austria in 1938. He settled in London, in a large house in Princes Gate, Kensington, and became, according to an obituary tribute in *The Times* by the then Sir Anthony Blunt, "probably the greatest European collector of old masters in the post-war period".

Seilern's particular interest was Flemish art; he acquired 33 paintings and 22 drawings by Rubens alone. But he also ranged widely over the Italians, including Titian, Tintoretto, Michelangelo and Leonardo. He had a large group of drawings by Rembrandt, and commissioned paintings from his friend Kokoschka.

Mr Richard Camber, head of the works of art departments at Sotheby's, draws a parallel between Seilern and Burrell in that the former also had a nose for works which would later become valuable. "Like all collectors he enjoyed a bargain and hoped to get things for as little as possible, though he was prepared to spend reasonable sums if this would enhance the collection as a whole."

Seilern, who died in 1978, left his collection, which has been valued at up to £50m, to the Courtauld Institute of the University of London, which already has Samuel Courtauld's fine collection of French impressionist and post-impressionist paintings.

16,17
In the Garden; Spring bulbs; Review of videos; Critics' Choice of Dance, Music, Opera, Theatre, Films and Galleries

19,20
Family Life; Bridge; Chess; Prize crossword; The Week Ahead; Steam railways; Collecting; At home: DIY darkroom

Hutton Castle is a derelict ruin because after Burrell's death no one was prepared to buy and maintain it.

A typical small specialist English collector is Denis Mahon, who used his knowledge as an art historian to form an exquisite collection of paintings from seventeenth-century Italy. Again he was able to do so because he had become an expert in a field which was relatively unexplored.

Robert (later Sir Robert) Sainsbury, grandson of the founder of the grocery chain, started collecting, mainly sculptures, when he came down from Cambridge in 1927. A small green Henry Moore of mother and child helped to set him on his way and he collected other contemporaries, including Arp, Bacon, Giacometti and Picasso, as well as primitive art and antiquities.

Like Burrell and Seilern, Sir Robert has made his collection publicly available: it is housed in the purpose-designed Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts at the University of East Anglia. The 580 items, put together over 40 years, were the result of what Sir Robert has called "a personal and wholly intuitive search".

He added, in words that could easily have been used by Burrell: "I bought them because they pleased me emotionally. Their appeal was gut reaction. Later, as I gained knowledge, I came to love them, but I am not a scholar".

A few years before his death Count Seilern claimed that the age of the private collector, as distinct from the public benefactor, was at an end. Certainly the Rubens pictures and the other old masters of his time are much harder to come by now, partly because so many are in public galleries.

What the budding collector of today must do is to go back to the lesson of Burrell. He must, of course, have money, but, just as important, he must have Burrell's business shrewdness and eye for a bargain. And, above all, he must find, and become knowledgeable about, some hitherto unexplored and therefore still inexpensive, field.

As Richard Camber points out: "There is still a considerable amount of material on the market waiting for someone with the ability to sort through it and pick out the gems. One area is small-scale antiquities, such as Roman and Egyptian bronzes; another is old-master drawings.

"It is true that prices of works of art have soared, but there are still individuals with considerable wealth, and given the business flair and the motivation, there is no reason why another Burrell should not emerge." A profile of Sir William Burrell, *In Search of Xanadu*, is being shown on Channel 4 on Feb 25 (8.30-9.30 pm).

Next week
The high-rollers
in casinos



Another remarkable assembly by a foreigner living in Britain is the Keir collection of Islamic art, probably the finest example in private hands today.

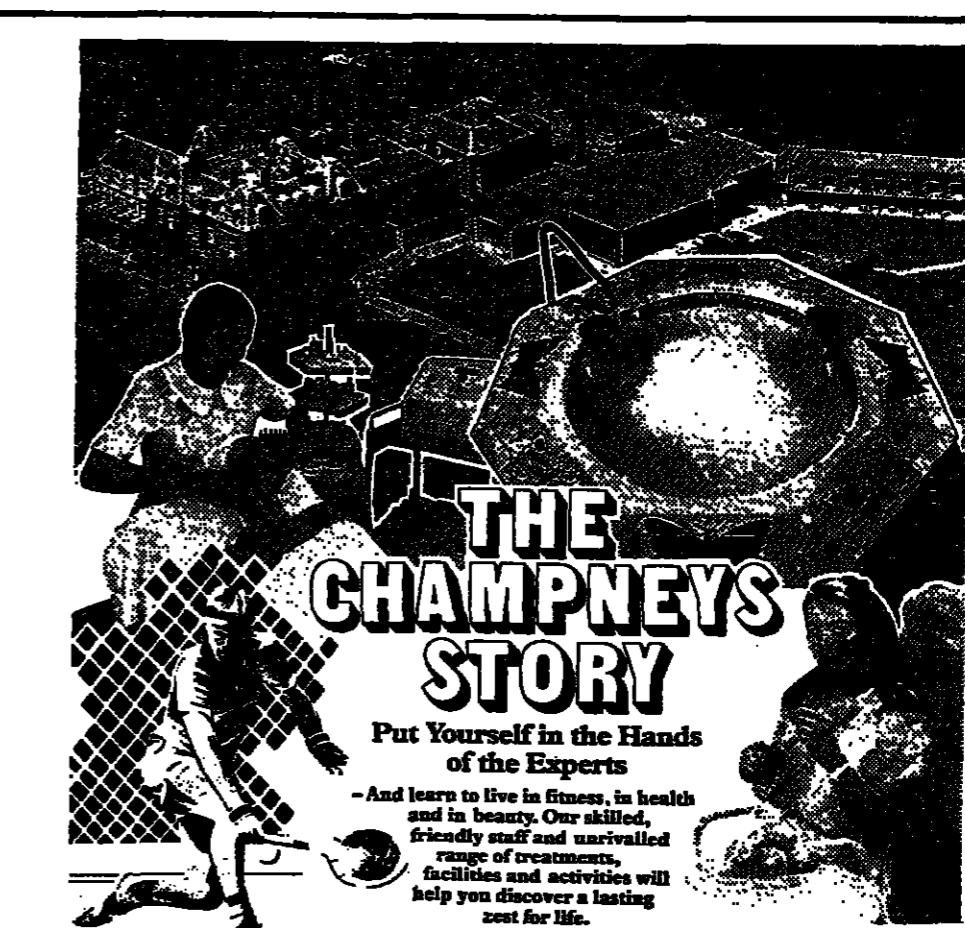
It includes many fine carpets, also manuscripts, ceramics and metalwork, and was put together by Dr Edmund Unger, a Hungarian-born barrister who like Seilern (though from choice, not political expediency) came to England in the 1930s.

He was able to collect successfully at reasonable cost, because when he started out Islamic art was not so highly regarded as it has since become; yet another example of the Burrell nose for sniffing out bargains. The Keir collection also contains an outstanding

medieval section, bought from a Swiss collector.

So what have English collectors been up to in the last 50 years? "The English", says Mr Camber, "have been very good at collecting on a small scale, in depth, and in somewhat esoteric areas". This specialization is partly a reflection of soaring prices—particularly since the late 1950s. It is also due to the increasing cost of maintaining the large country houses which alone have the space to display a big collection.

Burrell kept his treasures in Hutton Castle, an imposing building of fifteenth-century origin near Berwick-upon-Tweed which he bought during the First World War. Today



Explore New Sensations

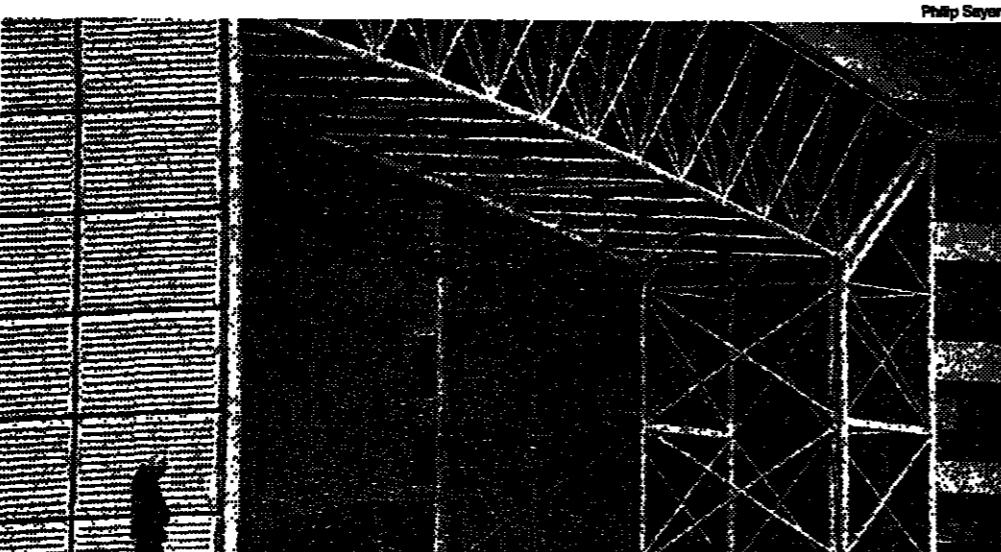
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espoused radical causes: the abolition of the slave trade, the establishment of universal education, a minimum wage for agricultural labourers and reform of the poor law. For all this he was a conservative at heart and believed that the best way to protect the interests of the landed classes was to ease the discontent of the poor through education and philanthropy. But he was vilified by the Tories, distrusted by his Whig colleagues.

After his death by suicide in 1815 the editor of *The Times* called him "England's greatest and most useful citizen", and *The Pilot* wrote that he was "the most genuine patriot of our time — one of the first for all time".

Patriotism was very much behind Whitbread's involvement in the arts. He was one of the first Englishmen to collect and encourage British art exclusively, believing that his artistic activities might help to further his social and political goals. He offered philanthropic help to several artists and their families, including the painter George Garrard and the engraver S. W. Reynolds, who were housed by him at Southill Park, the Whitbread family seat in Bedfordshire. He also commissioned works by leading

contemporary artists, including John Hopper, John Opie, James Northcote and Sir David Wilkie, and among his acquisitions were works by Sir Joshua Reynolds, Gainsborough and Romney.

Between 1810 and 1812 he organized the rebuilding of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, which had been destroyed by fire, at the invitation of the playwright Richard Brinsley Sheridan.

City scene: 'View from the East End of the brewery' (1792)

Paintings, Politics and Poetry: Samuel Whitbread and British Art, opens at the Museum of London Tuesday. It covers the various facets of his life and includes a selection from his art collection, which has been preserved at Southill Park. The majority of the paintings, prints, drawings and sculptures have not been seen by the public before.

Museum of London, London WC2 (0171 363695), Tues-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm. Admission free. Until April 29.

In pursuit of the priceless

The Burrell Collection, Pollok Country Park, Glasgow (041 649 7151). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm (closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day). Admission free.

Courtauld Institute Galleries, Woburn Square, London WC1 (080 1015). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm (closed on bank holidays). Admission 50p, students, children and pensioners half price. The French impressionist collection is on loan in Japan and will not be back in the gallery until September.

The Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts (opposite right), University of East Anglia, Norwich, Norfolk (0603 56060). Tues-Sun noon-5pm (closed Mon and during university closure at Christmas and Easter). Admission 50p, students and pensioners half price.

Thomas Gainsborough (1788)
● Samuel Whitbread II

Patriotism and patronage

Samuel Whitbread II, born in 1764, nearly a century before Sir William Burrell, successfully carried on the brewery business founded by his father. But his greater claim to attention was as a politician and as a patron and collector of the arts.

During the years between the outbreak of the French Revolution and the battle of Waterloo, he was a maverick Whig opposition MP who consistently

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL/1

Get away from it all for a weekend where East meets West, in Budapest; stroll through the boulevards and piazzas of Paris and Bologna...

Soft options in city enriched by invaders

Hungary has been much invaded, and in the cultural round in Budapest is all the richer for it. The city's offering of galleries, museums - the guides list no fewer than 43 - and monuments all speak of the clashes on the Danube plains of Teutons and Slavs, Turks and Tartars.

Two invasions are not much mentioned, though they undoubtedly shape Budapest's contrasts as a modern holiday destination. One brought the Russians in 1945 and with them communism. On the streets of Budapest you don't see their presence - unless you are a connoisseur of Warsaw Pact military insignia. Getting there, you do feel it. Malev, the Hungarian national airline, flies noisy and cramped Russian Tupolev jets.

Hungarian communism wears a western, consumerist face which makes visiting the country one of the softest possible introductions to life behind the Iron Curtain. The heavy hand of bureaucracy shows in matters official; but tourist services run smoothly with no puritanical hang-ups.

This is due largely to Hungary's other latter-day invaders, the German speakers. The Austrians, successors to the Hapsburg emperors, now skim down the Danube by hydrofoil or hop across the border to have their hair done at a fraction of Vienna prices. Hungary offers them and the West Germans not so much things to buy (the range of goods is strictly limited despite the glitter of the department stores on Vaci Street) as services. The restaurants and hotels are both cheap and fully comparable with the West's culinary standards are high.

Budapest is an open city for anyone with western currency and if the pound sterling does not quite have the cachet of the dollar, schilling or mark, it is as welcome, not least in the form of widely accepted Visa and American Express cards. Opportunities for weekend breaks from Britain are growing with direct connexions from Heathrow by Malev flights.

Once there, high-minded visitors can explore in Pest (the flat part on the eastern bank of the Danube) a city built to the

imperial dimensions, and in Buda, on the opposite bank, the cobbled streets and alleyways of an ancient hilltop town. Those with less lofty ideas can stick close to the coffee shops, where the range of cream and pastry confections is of Viennese proportions.

Getting around presents no problems: Budapest has two varieties of tram and three kinds of underground train. One runs from Engels Square to the City Park - the Fine Arts Museum near by has a vast, if badly lit, display of western European Old Masters - and claims to be the first underground train track laid on the Continent.

Travel by underground costs one forint, which at the official exchange rate is worth about 1.3 pence. If Hungarian funk is not quite up to western standards, the same cannot be said of the Hungarophony of the national composers, especially Bartók and Kodály, which retail for less than 60p.

The Hungarian government has recently recruited western experts in hotel management. Though state-owned, the Hilton in the hills of Buda is run on international lines by an efficient Swiss. The Hilton has been cleverly slotted into the outer walls of an old Jesuit College, and the architect's joke has been to site the hotel's casino - the only one behind the Iron Curtain - in an old monastic tower.

In contrast to the Hilton or Intercontinental, there is the Thermal, a spa hotel with much more of a central European character on Margitsziget, a large island in the middle of the Danube. Several hotels have medicinal baths, which point to the Hungarian fondness for health cures and says something to visitors about the richness of the local diet.

David Walker

Danube Travel, the booking agents for the Hungarian national tourist organization IBUSZ, at 8 Conduit Street, London W1 (01-493 0263) offers city breaks to Budapest. A three-night package, including flight and accommodation at a two-star hotel with breakfast, costs £169; three nights at the Budapest Hilton with no breakfast costs £253; good value at £230 is the three-night stay with breakfast at the five-star Duna Intercontinental.

Free enterprise: A market stall

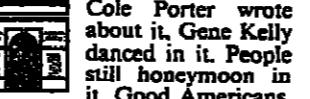
The twin towns offer many days' worth of sightseeing. But the cultural round, which will probably take in the National Museum and its display of Hungarian royal regalia from the Middle Ages, is worth interrupting for a visit to the Vasárcsarnok produce market off Tolbukhin boulevard.

Here Hungary's much vaunted free enterprise socialism really comes to life in a blaze of colour. Dried peppers are hung in bunches, there is garlic and herbs, acacia honey, hungry-looking carp in tanks, roots, beets, greens and an abundance of meat. A stall in one corner of the market offers pieces of freshly fried carp eaten with a lump of peasant bread.



Proud traditions: The entrance to one of the stations on the Paris Metro and the Hungarian national assembly building on the eastern bank of the Danube.

Symmetry, gastronomy and song



Cole Porter wrote about it. Gene Kelly danced in it. People still honeymoon in it. Good Americans, according to the saying, go there when they die; it's the only time they can afford the fare.

I went to Paris for two rainy days in January, when the trees were bare and the air biting. The streets are long and graceful, however, at any time of the year. The inhabitants, conversely, are rude so automatically and so efficiently that they have made turning the back into an art.

Paris is a prettier city than London. It has some purpose of design, a spa hotel with much more of a central European character on Margitsziget, a large island in the middle of the Danube. Several hotels have medicinal baths, which point to the Hungarian fondness for health cures and says something to visitors about the richness of the local diet.

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A taste of la vita Bolognese

It didn't rain on my long weekend in Bologna, but if it had, I was assured by the city's burghers, I wouldn't have got wet.

Bologna, it seems, is one of the most portocito cities in the world. Its arcades, which range from the rustically beamed to the majestically vaulted, umbrella approximately 35 kilometres of pavement.

Bologna is not an obvious destination for the British holidaymaker. It does not boast a Basilica of St Mark or a Via Veneto. But neither is it congested with claustrophobic throngs. Originating in the ninth century BC, it has a long history of varied domination which is reflected in its art and architecture. Like Venice, it is aging gracefully, but unlike that city, its economy does not rely on tourists to behold the fading ochre and sienna hues of its buildings.

The advantages of being nearly the only tourist in town are many. But there are drawbacks too. How could I, for example, shuffle about in dilapidated plimsolls when the native women were strutting round in chic suede boots?

The heart of the city is the Piazza Maggiore, where the Bolognese congregate in the evenings to see and be seen by each other as they swagger about draped in furs. The backdrop to this daily performance is the bizarre facade of the Italian Gothic basilica of San Petronio. When its fourteenth-century architect died, neither his plans nor the money to carry out his intentions could be found. Thus this monument to unmet aspirations stands incomplete today, the smooth marble base of its exterior in marked contrast to the rough masonry stop.

Bologna is also the city of towers. Some hundred and fifty remain from the days when the great families vied to erect the tallest. From my lowly human vantage point, I could make out only the *due torri* which stand at the city's centre skirted by cobbled streets jammed with Fiats and buses. So I climbed a hill on the town's outskirts and arrived just as the fog rolled in to obstruct my view of the blighted forest of medieval skyscrapers.

So uninterested is Bologna in its tourists that no one has deemed it necessary to label many of the works of art in its churches. And often these were illuminated only by the few rays of sunshine able to pierce the lofty windows and the flicker of candles. However, the Pinacoteca (Bologna's national gallery of fine art) is both well labelled and well lit, and it houses an impressive collection of Gothic "School of Bologna", a roomful of Guido Reni canvases and Raphael's "The Ecstasy of St Cecilia".

But Bologna is more renowned for its food than its art, and I was eager to test its reputation as Italy's culinary capital. Indeed, on my way to visit the sights, I was constantly

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TRAVEL/2

... or just relax in the countryside nearer home

Northern bits of grit and genius

Given the chance of a weekend in Yorkshire which, when the travelling has been done, boils down to one usable day, what are the options? Fill the rucksack and head for the dales? Or make the gloomy assumption that it will pour with rain and sleet for tried and tested signs within easy reach?

We played safe and chose the latter. Ironically we were blessed with one of those perfect late October days, sharp and bright, when the air tastes sweet and all is right with the world. But we had made our decision and off we went, across the moors and past the millstone grit houses to what the guidebooks call the Brontë country.

Descending suddenly down the side of a valley we were in the neat village of Haworth. It was difficult at first to realize that here those gifted and tragic sisters made their enduring contribution to the English novel. The parsonage on the top of the hill behind the church, where they lived and wrote and died, seemed almost homely, not the bleak and forbidding place of Brontë legend.

But as we went round the modest rooms, the story began to take shape. Here was the study of the tyrannical and uncaring clergyman father, with his Psalter and spectacles and stovepipe hat; here in the dining room the sofa where Emily died, refusing a doctor until it was too late. Although the house was altered and added to after the Reverend Brontë's death, enough of the original survives for the visitor to absorb the atmosphere of intense creativity and lonely suffering.

The railway came to the valley later, a five-mile branch line from Keighley through Haworth to Oxenhope which opened in 1867. Whether it ever paid its way is doubtful. Once the motor car arrived its demise was inevitable and British Rail



Novel house: Haworth parsonage, home of the Brontës

decided to close it even before the Beeching Report.

That but for a dedicated band of railway enthusiasts, would have been that. But they managed to stop the tracks being lifted and after years of legal wrangling re-opened the line as a private concern. Today the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway carries more passengers than it did in the last years of British Rail.

Unlike some other preserved steam railways, the Keighley and Worth Valley has the charm and coherence of a complete branch line much as it was a century ago. The 25-minute journey is a constant delight, taking in six stations (including the lovingly preserved Oakworth, location for the film of *The Railway Children*).

From Keighley, keeping north of Bradford and then Leeds and turning off along the Harrogate Road, we came to Harewood House, home of the Earls of that name since it was built in the eighteenth century. Today Harewood is in the statley-home business.

Standing in ample grounds landscaped by Capability Brown, the house is more impressive inside than out. Most of the ground floor is open to the public and the rooms can boast a fair history of English

Peter Waymark

Ours was one of several "Lazydays" weekend breaks offered by the Radisson Hotels group. The price of £45 per head included two nights' bed and breakfast, dinner, and a small discount on local attractions. For reservations telephone 01-734 6000.

break package at Bodysgallen costs £140 for two people. This includes two nights' accommodation, followed by an expansive breakfast and early-morning tea, £12 a night towards dinner per person, and a bottle of the excellent house champagne to greet you. The £12 allowance will account for most of the food at dinner, and excellent food it is too. The only extra will probably be the selection you make from the encyclopedic and reasonably priced wine list. Specialist weekends, covering such subjects as wine, food or the local gardens, are run occasionally and cost a little more.

Having a glass of 1949 cognac brought to one while one is seated by the crackling log fire in the panelled main hall, surrounded by paintings one may fondly imagine to be ancestors, is probably the nearest most of us will get to the spirit of Lord Marchmain. For that reason one does not balk at paying £2.50 for the privilege.

David Hewson

Bodysgallen Hall, Llandudno, North Wales LL30 1RS (0492 844665).

However, if one is suitably prepared for such eventualities, one can accept them. A drive down the coast to Portmeirion, through Conwy, Bangor — perhaps with a venture into Anglesey to see Beaumaris — and Caernarfon, a bracing walk along the seafront of Llandudno, which is surely one of our best-preserved Victorian resorts, and one can return to the lord of the manor.

The customary weekend

is way into the hands of a new company called Historic Houses Hotels, which spent two years and an unconscionable amount of money restoring it in a fashion befitting its history.

The effect is not unlike that of staying in a National Trust property, and indeed the trust has been closely involved in the hall's renovation. Last year the property won the British Tourist Authority Heritage award. Now, it has received a diploma of merit from Europa Nostra, the European cultural and heritage association.

Ah, you say, but what do you do there? And that is a very good question. Having made the journey to the hall, we ventured beyond it in an attempt to discover the thriving Flintshire winter weekend (I am sorry, I cannot bring myself to adopt the modernisms of Clwyd and Gwynedd).

The castles of Conwy and Caernarfon were closed, but impressive sights from the outside for all that. Not a carriage ran on the Festiniog Railway, and Portmeirion, that odd little fantasy of Sir Clough Williams-Ellis, was equally unconvincing.

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The customary weekend

Lording it up in the hill country

You can judge a good hotel by the books it keeps to amuse its guests during those odd moments when the weather or the will inclines away from outdoor activities. At Bodysgallen Hall, in a bookshelf by the bed, stood Hemingway, Sabatini and L. P. Hartley's *The Go-Between*. I opened the last and read: "The past is a foreign country; they do things differently there".

At Bodysgallen, tucked half-way up a hill in North Wales, the past pours out of the walls, sloshes around the ancient corridors and suffuses the seven acres of grounds. Ask the management and they will take you to the top of the thirteenth-century tower which was originally built as a look-out point for Conwy Castle across the estuary. The creep of modern forestry has altered the view, but not too much. Down in the grounds, heaven-sent for a Londoner who spends the year tending a handkerchief-sized plot, the seventeenth-century knot garden of box hedges and herbs, the walled rose garden and the formal pool speak of another age.

For most of its history, Bodysgallen was the ancestral home of the Mostyns, one of North Wales' foremost families, until, like so many of its fellows, it was sold and went into decline. Luckily, it found

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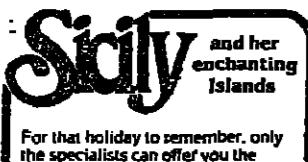
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Mike Banks goes trekking in the Andes and explains how a dream can go sour

Fantasy and filth on the winding paths to paradise

Trekking has an aura which is irresistible to the romantic or the escapist. It offers solitude and challenge in remote and empty ranges. In their hearts trekkers are all pilgrims treading a version of the Golden Road to Samarkand. But how much is dream, how much reality?

The dream is valid. A trek really can be a blessed escape to peace and beauty in faraway places, beyond the postman and the telephone, beyond the road's ending and the last car. The enjoyment of superb scenery is honestly earned by striding over the ridges and across the high passes. If you are very selective in choosing both your companions and your trek, your dream can come as near true as these things are likely to. But there are pitfalls.

Last summer I trekked with a group of old mountaineering friends in the remote and not very fashionable Cordillera Vilcanota in the Peruvian Andes. During the whole time we met just two pleasant young Americans and we enjoyed the Andes at their very best.

We also walked the famous Inca Trail to Machu Picchu. The campsites were filthy. There were so many people it seemed pointless to say *Buenos Días* as we met them. At one site some campers arriving after us just pitched their tents right outside the doors of our own. The whole thing was grisly. Machu Picchu itself was re-

warding but the Inca Trail? Never again.

Treks are now organized in Nepal, India, Pakistan, China, Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia. They all share much the same format. They last from one to four weeks, with two weeks the norm. Porters or pack animals convey all the food and equipment leaving the trekker to carry only a light day pack. The daily marches are moderate, the trekkers going at their own pace. On arrival at the campsite tents are pitched by the staff and all meals are provided.

The route is usually circular, often the circumnavigation of a great mountain. Participants soon settle down to the routine and the ever-unending vista. After a few days, legs become stronger and lungs get acclimatized to the altitude. There is a gratifying feeling of simplicity when sophistication is one clean shirt a week.

A bonus is that a trek is the finest of slimming courses.

Although you eat as much as you want, at high altitudes you don't want much. It is also a photographic banquet: landscape beyond compare, colourful people and unusual flowers.

So all the ingredients are there for a holiday that will strengthen your body and refresh your spirit. Why then have certain treks apparently gone sour?

When Colonel John Hunt, leading the 1953 expedition, reached Thyangboche near Everest he was enraptured alike by the place and the Sherpa people. He wrote: "We stood spellbound by this wonderful scene, upon an open, grassy alp on which yaks were grazing peacefully..."

Knowing that Lord Hunt had returned there twice in 1973 and 1978, I asked him how things had changed. He replied: "Each time we repeated the journey we experienced a sense of shock, an offence against nature perpetrated by the tourist industry - filthy camp

sites, litter along the path,

plastic bags and tins in the rhododendron bushes. The magic was diminished almost to nothing". He does not exaggerate.

But I would not want to paint too gloomy a picture. The two most crowded treks in the world must be the Inca Trail and the walk to Everest but there are dozens of others, many of which are lightly used and offer a genuine wilderness experience. The trick is to avoid the big names. For instance, some publicist thought up a trek to the romantic sounding "Annapurna Sanctuary". But these things tend to be self-defeating.

A sanctuary is no longer a sanctuary if it is positively humming with trekkers half-hoping to find a DIY version of Shangri La!

The problem is at last being recognized. I spoke to Mr Alfredo Serreyros, a Peruvian who is taking part in an official inquiry into the Inca Trail. He hopes that regulations will be brought in to make it compulsory to use paraffin stoves to conserve the forests; that latrines and litter bins will be provided at camp sites; and above all that the flow of trekkers will be controlled.

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VALUES

Beryl Downing on choosing wallpaper to match the period of your house

The hanging debate takes an historical turn



A selection of borders from the Hill & Knowles collection. Each is available in 15 colours, depths are from 1/4in to 16in and prices from 44p to £2.45 per metre.

Twenty years ago people used to "do up" old houses. Now they restore them. The aim is not to modernize but to achieve the exact period flavour of the building, and specialist dealers offer all sorts of architectural embellishments, from Victorian stained glass to complete runs of Georgian panelling. Advice and appropriate references are abundant — until you start looking for wallpaper.

An exhibition called "Wallpaper: Four Centuries of Design" at the Victoria and Albert Museum until April 29 goes a little way towards setting the seeker after accuracy on the right path. But only a little way. The museum has not allowed Jean Hamilton, who looks after the wallpaper collection, nearly enough space to make anything but an historical point.

That she does superbly. Choosing only 80 examples from a collection of 10,000 pieces, she shows early seventeenth-century woodblock designs overprinted on documents used for lining trunks; embossed leather panels alternating with flock; the brilliant "Scheele's green", which gave off arsenical vapours when it became damp; the curious and unidentified code used for the taxation stamp (1d a square yard) imposed in 1712; many fragments from historic buildings; and a fascinating Cowtan order-book showing samples for redecorating Stratfield Saye in the original red-lock paper chosen for the Duke of Wellington.

Cowtan & Sons were among the few interior decorators to receive a royal warrant. Many of their original lock books were bought in 1940 by Albert Pervall Cole, founder of Coles of Mortimer Street, who still own them.

For today's renovators, however, there is really not enough reference to pinpoint period characteristics. They have to do their own research for this at the three major producers of historic papers: Coles, Watts and Sanderson.

At John Perry's factory in north London, Coles are now the only company in the world still hand-printing wallpapers with the original pear-wood blocks, some made as early as 1680, many around the mid-eighteenth century and even more in Victoria's reign.

There are about 3,000 blocks to choose from, and Christopher Cole, grandson of the founder, who collects historic wallpaper fragments, has no

difficulty in finding authentic designs in his archive. The company has provided paper for the Houses of Parliament, and for every National Trust house in the country; and when Ceci Beaton was designing *My Fair Lady* Coles were able to produce original 1890 blocks to create exactly the right period atmosphere.

They are also producing a series of historic designs for the Victoria & Albert museum, available at the museum shop or from Coles at about £60 per roll. Or you can have "anything made in any colour you like" if you order a minimum of 10 rolls. Their showrooms are at 18 Mortimer Street, London W1 (01-580 1066).

Perry also prints for Watts & Co, 7 Tufton Street, London W1 (01-222 7169). This company was founded in 1858 by three architects who wanted to produce textiles, metalwork and wallpapers created specifically to complement their designs for houses built for individual clients. Bodley, Thomas Garner and George Gilbert Scott II (son of Sir George Scott who designed the Albert memorial) specialized in the restoration of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century grand houses.

All three were distinguished graphic designers and their papers were carefully documented. There is now a small range of 24 original designs, exclusive to Watts, including damask designs of the eighteenth century and the flowing flowers and foliage of J. E. Bodley, one of the three founders, who was a direct influence on William Morris. An original Bodley design, reproduced today from the same blocks, is, say, Watts', "like having an original Wren on your walls. It is one of the few art forms everyone can have as decoration".

Being created for individual rooms and lighting, Watts' papers were never produced in a colour range. But now any of the designs can be produced in the colours of the client's choice (again in minimum orders of 10 rolls). Some have been reproduced in screen prints at about £18.40 a roll. Hand-blocked papers are from £25.30 a roll.

Sandersons are among the few mass producers of wallpapers who bother to include authentic designs in their ranges. They own the entire collection of original William Morris blocks, and their Morris & Co collection offers 75 hand-printed designs, including



For those who intend to recreate the exact atmosphere of a period house, historic wallpapers can still be reproduced by hand today, using the original pear-wood blocks, or can be obtained in machine printed, scaled-down versions. Left, Pear, exclusive to Watts & Co, is a very large design 36in wide (two 18in rolls per design) with a pattern repeat of 35in. It is washed and scrubbed during the application of inks and this achieves an effect like silk. £21 per roll, minimum 20 rolls. Centre, Amberley, by Coles, is one of

"Trellis", which is believed to be Morris' first wallpaper design for his own house in Kent. Prices are from £25 to £120 per roll, minimum order six rolls. Other designs from the period 1834-1896 are available in any colourway to special order.

There is also a new Options range by Sanderson which includes several papers and fabrics based on original nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century drawings and documents. Those with Victorian and Edwardian houses might care to look at "Cornfield", first

produced early this century to a poppy design by Walter Crane.

"Summers Past", featuring herbaceous flowers on a polka-dot ground, both £8.95 a roll in the Options range and "Trellis", a 1920s floral trellis at £7.20 in the Classics range, and

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REVIEW Video

Still going steady with Cathy, Cilla and Sandie

Ready Steady Go! Volume One Picture Music TVE 90 1959 2, £19.95 (59 min)
Girl Groups: The Story of a Sound MGM/UA UMV 10194, VHS/Beta, (62 min)

Ready Steady Go! is pop music's Holy Grail. Two decades after its heyday, in a business supposedly dedicated to novelty and revolution, pop's practitioners still strive to attain the state of grace they imagine was embodied in the series of television programmes broadcast on Friday evenings in 1964 and 1965, when the sun rose as endlessly as in childhood and the world began to turn Day-Glo.

Following 65 Specials, Oh Boy, Drumbeat and Thank Your Lucky Stars, RSG! discovered the perfect formula for a pop magazine show: songs, interviews, fashion and dances. Particularly lots of dances and lots of fashion. Friday evening by the television became a guide to the next day's shopping; a new single by an obscure American rhythm and blues singer, a new high-coloured paisley shirt, a newer and cooler set of steps for the party that night.

The weekend starts here! That's what it said, and that's how it felt at the time. Wisely, the programme was terminated before it could lose its energy. The legend began to grow. Would we ever see again those magical programmes featuring Janis Joplin and Otis Redding, the Beatles and the Rolling Stones? Subsequent television producers, vainly labouring to create badly smudged copies, probably hoped not. Nothing could live beside its memory, even eventually, in the imaginations of those who had never seen it.

Now the opportunity has come for RSG! to put up or shut up, to prove the validity of its reputation or to stand revealed as nothing more than the product of a self-absorbed generation's overheated enthusiasm. Canny old Dave Clark - he of "Glad All Over" and "Bits and Pieces" - bought what had survived of the entire series years ago, and has at last released a first instalment containing 15 performances spanning the years 1964 to 1966, from the Beatles' "Can't Buy Me Love" to the Rolling Stones' "Paint it Black".

Immediately one can say: this is safe. So clearly does this tape evoke the sensations of its era that purchasers of a certain age are strongly advised against viewing it for the first time on a Friday evening, when they

would probably find themselves worrying about homework rather than pension rights.

Although pieced together from many editions, the tape represents practically every memorable aspect of the show: the new superstars of the Beat Room, happy to appear in this elite showcase; the newcomers making astonishingly assured first steps, fading star of an earlier era desperately hoping to update his image; and the contrasting styles of the presenters, the avuncular Keith Fordyce and the fluttery Cathy McGowan, both living up to any subsequent caricature.

In terms of pop history, probably the most valuable sequences feature the first television appearance of the Animals, performing "Baby Let Me Take You Down", and them, with "Baby Please Don't Go". One is transfixed anew by the driving commitment of Burdon and Morrison, fresh down from Tyneside and Belfast respectively and determined to make their mark on Swinging London: these were no puppets of the pop process.

Nor was Dusty Springfield, whose poised rendering of "Every Day I Have To Cry" sums up RSG's cool élitism as well as George Fame's Ivy League-meets-Wardour Street flip through "Yeh Yeh", the number one hit which took him out of the Flamingo all-nighters and into the world of light entertainment.

John, Paul, George and Ringo do "You Can't Do That" in addition to its A-side, benefitting from the high-contrast film tight-close-ups of black fringes and bleached checkbones look positively expressionist: "Under My Thumb", the second Stones clip, features Brian Jones, preening front and centre, thoroughly upstaging M. Jagger, the Who deliver "Anyway, Anyhow, Anywhere" so aggressively that the cameramen must have been in mortal terror; Cilla and Lulu and Sadie emotive in their various ways through "You're My World", "Shout" and "Girl Don't Come", looking like a Biba catalogue.

The only aspect of the original show missing from this first volume of "greatest hits" is RSG's frequent presentation of American stars known only to the hard-core Mod audience. Inez and Charlie Foxx would never have found their way onto *Saturday Night at the London Palladium*, but on RSG! they were stars. Pending the rectification of that omission in future volumes, one might invest in *Girl Groups*, an enjoyable documentary concen-



The weekend starts here: Ready Steady Go! regulars Eric Burdon, hostess Cathy McGowan - reality measures up to the image - and Cilla Black

A cowboy makes good

Atlantic City (1981) Videospace, £29.95 (105 min); Conversation Piece (1974) VCL Video, £23 (115 min); The Professionals (1968) RCA/Columbia, £44 (123 min); Local Hero (1983) Thorn EMI, £50.95 (107 min)

Burt Lancaster is one of the few actors regarded with equal reverence in the United States and continental Europe. His career has taken him from all-American athlete, tough-guy and cowboy to European intellectual and aristocrat. In every role he has displayed an intelligence and sensitivity rare among his contemporaries. Even in his more straightforward parts, he leaves the impression of something deeper.

Atlantic City shows him at his most subtle and authoritative. French director Louis Malle stunningly evokes the seedy present of a faded city, once rich and elegant, trying to win its way back to fortune through bigger and brasier casinos. Lancaster plays an aging second-rate former gangster who, for a few days, is unexpectedly given a taste of love, money and notoriety. It is an undated, moving, wholly believable performance, one of the two or three best of his career.

It was in Luchino Visconti's masterpiece, *The Leopard*, that Lancaster proved beyond doubt that he was one of the great actors of the post-war cinema.

In 1974, when they collaborated again in *Conversation Piece*, the result was far less successful.

The fault is not Lancaster's. The film is one of Visconti's more pretentious exercises: its underlying theme is unclear, and the dialogue and much of the acting are stilted. It is to Lancaster's credit that he nearly manages to make sense of his role as a reserved, lonely Italian professional entangled in the emotional and sexual affairs of his unwelcome tenants.

If *Conversation Piece* is typical of his European persona, *The Professionals* is archetypal Hollywood Lancaster. He plays one of a team of adventurers paid to recover Claudia Cardinale from the bandit leader Jack Palance. Lancaster is especially effective at portraying moral ambiguity. His mercenary has base motives but at the same time a developed sense of pride and honour; his crude toughness is tinged with sadness and gentleness.

Local Hero gave Lancaster the rare chance of a less serious, if not quite comic, part as Hopper, the quixotic head of an American oil corporation with designs on a tiny Scottish village. Bill Forsyth's film was rightly lauded as a delightful, witty portrayal of the impact of promised wealth on the assorted bunch of endearing eccentrics who make up the local community. Lancaster is a joy to watch. He displays an unerring lightness of touch.

Marcel Berlins

IN THE GARDEN



Bulbs that light up the garden after winter

Gardening has been very hard this winter. While some places have had snow and high winds, others have experienced a mixture of bright sun and torrential rain. Such extremes have made it almost impossible to forecast the flowering times of early flowering plants. In London and the South East they are coming a little earlier than usual; in the north they will be little later.

Hardy cyclamen are ideal garden plants as they need little or no attention once planted and established. The early flowering forms are *C. coum*, *C. balearicum* and *C. libanicum*. They grow well anywhere in the south but in the north they should be given a well sheltered site. Do not make the common mistake of planting the corms too deeply.

One of the finest sights in early spring is the *Narcissus* *cyclamineus* February Gold. Its flowers are reflexed like those of the species *cyclamineus* but they are much bigger. They last a long time as they flower early, when the weather is cool. Peeping Tom is another in the *cyclamineus* group; it is a little shorter than February Gold and flowers about 10 days to a fortnight later.

Leucojum vernum, the spring snowflake, flowers in February or March, it is not to be

confused with *Leucojum aestivum*, the summer snowflake, which flowers in late spring or early summer. It is a graceful plant which grows about 10in and has flowers like snowdrops. Spring snowflakes should not be disturbed once they have been planted so site them where they can be allowed to grow untouched until they need dividing.

Both are more expensive than other naturalizing narcissus: February Gold costs twice as much as King Alfred and Peeping Tom is about three times as dear. Varieties of narcissus also include Angel's Tears, *N. triandrus* *albus*, a 7in high plant with silvery white flowers which come in clusters. This is unlikely to flower before early March.

Iris reticulata is a real beauty. About 6ft tall with scented flowers, it is ideal for areas round the terrace where it can be seen from the windows. Try the form Cantab, which has light blue flowers with a yellow blotch, and Joyce, whose flowers are lavender. *I. danfordiae*

usually comes a little earlier than *I. reticulata* and has scented yellow flowers with brown spots. *Crocus tomasinianus* is in flower now, really needs a bright sunny day to show off its best advantage. The lilac-purple flowers show before the plants are fully in leaf and it is an ideal naturalizing crocus. *C. sieberi* Violet Queen has violet blue flowers which look up towards the sky as they open. It does better when it is not growing through grass as it is less able to cope with competition than *C. tomasinianus*.

A distinct blue is not an easy colour to come by but one plant which will provide it is *Scilla*

sibirica. Its deep rich blue flowers which grow no higher than 4in in mid March are a joy to see. It will grow as well through grass as it will in the front of borders or in containers on the terrace. The form Spring Beauty is a much lighter blue and is a little taller but it will tolerate the same conditions.

My final spring flowering selection is *Iphione uniflorum*, sometimes known as *Tritelia*. It will produce scented flowers from March onwards but it needs protection. The form Wisley Blue has larger, violet-blue flowers and will grow to about 6in.

Ashley Stephenson

Wisdom potted by experts

Reardon Master Series (three cassettes, each 28 min) Read Vision, £15 each or £40 the set Play Better Snooker (54 mins) Precision Video, £22.50

Thanks almost entirely to television, snooker has been transformed from a minority activity of dubious repute to the second most popular indoor sport in Britain after darts.

The beauty of snooker on television is that the entire game can be contained in one camera shot and there are no many sports of which this can be said.

What applies to television is equally true of video and it is good to see two companies compiling cassettes of original material on how to play the game.

Ray Reardon's three-part course is the more informal and theatrical. The six-times world champion welcomes us at the entrance to Eastnor Castle, Ledbury, the location for the series, wearing a check jacket that would not have disgraced Max Miller; and in the castle's oak-panelled ambience takes us chatty through the nuts and bolts of the game: the grip, the bridge, the stance, and on to all those clever shots that leave the cue ball in just the right place for the next move.

That, roughly, is the area covered by the first two cassettes labelled "basic skills" in which two amateur players are used as guinea pigs to try out shots and techniques. Computer graphics are brought in for further illumination. On the third cassette, "strategy", Reardon explains the finer points of an actual game, played against a promising 15-year-old boy, and it finishes with a collection of his famous trick shots.

Play Better Snooker, with commentary by John Pulman and demonstrations by Terry Griffith - two other former world champions - is even more like an animated textbook, with each topic carefully explained and a caption summarily recapping the main points.

Compared with Reardon, The Pulman-Griffiths combination is a little solemn but tends to be more thorough. Having struggled to grasp the principles of spin, spin and screw from Reardon, I found the rival camp's explanation brilliantly clear. The Pulman-Griffiths cassette is probably the better one for the absolute beginner, since it covers the basics so well; on the other hand, it does not go as far as Reardon on the strategy of the game and has less claim to be a complete course.

Peter Waymark

PREVIEW Galleries



Master class: Einstein on violin, Rostropovich on cello by Glikman; Shostakovich, Stravinsky, Pasternak and Prokofiev, and a close friend of his fellow-exile, the musician Mstislav Rostropovich.

"The human face fascinates me", says Glikman. "I never tire of looking at people. There can be no more engrossing passion than trying to penetrate the depths of the human soul, and I believe that our individual fate is written in the feature of our face. In my portraits I try to capture not only the external surface appearance, but that individual destiny."

His exhibition is intended to enable people in the west to know and understand the Soviet Union better by the way it depicts great Russian cultural figures. Appropriately, Timothy West, who is at present persecuting Prokofiev and Shostakovich in his role as Stalin in *Masterclass* at the Old Vic, is showing the exhibition.

Glikman, aged 70, who now lives as a stateless person in West Germany, was for many years one of Russia's foremost sculptors.

He knew many of Russia's leading cultural figures, including

probably owed something to his early training as an heraldic artist.

TWENTIETH-CENTURY PORTRAITS

National Portrait Gallery, London WC2 (01-629 4517), Tues-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun noon-5pm.

A semi-permanent display of painting and sculpture belonging to

The Corporation of London goes on show for the rest of the year. Many of the 20 or so works are well known.

There are Raphaelite paintings, including

Leighton's *The Music Lesson*, Holman Hunt's *The Eve of St Agnes* and Millais' *My First Sermon* and *My Second Sermon*. There is also a room of Matthew Smith oil-paintings and a selection of photogravures by Edward Curtis.

DEREK JARMAN

ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (01-580 3647), Exhibition until March 17, Tues-Sun 12-9pm, Sun noon-5pm.

A semi-permanent display of

painting and sculpture belonging to

The Corporation of London goes on show for the rest of the year. Many of the 20 or so works are well known.

KARSH OF OTTAWA

National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2 (01-629 4517), Tues-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm.

A portrait of the Canadian

photographer, who has

been a friend of the artist

for 20 years, is on display.

They include William Roberts' double portrait of John Maynard

Keynes and Lydia Lopokova; Ben Nicholson's self-portrait with Barbara Hepworth; and Bryan Organ's portrait of the Prince of Wales.

Photography

GLENBARRY GLASS

The Pit (028 8775 2547), Tues-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 7.30pm, Sun 10am-5pm.

A portrait of the artist

is on display.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINT SHOW

Hamiltons, 13 Carlos Place, London W1 (01-580 9483), Tues until Mar 5, Mon-Sat 9.30am-5.30pm.

This commercial gallery continues

to offer sterling work by leading photographers with a wide range of subjects.

They include William Roberts' double portrait of John Maynard

Keynes and Lydia Lopokova; Ben Nicholson's self-portrait with Barbara Hepworth; and Bryan Organ's portrait of the Prince of Wales.

NEW IMAGES III

Tonight, 7.30pm, Studio Crisp, 74 (732 3254)

For the third programme

of the year, Michael

McGilligan and

Christopher Bruce's new work to

Janáček's *Intimate Pages* is given

at all the evening performances.

Tonight, Marcus Cunningham's

Fielding Sixes and the Bridget Riley

Colour Moves complete the bill;

next week, Ashton's *Capitol Suite*

and *Brahms Waltzes*, plus Robert

North's *Entre des Agnes*.

PREVIEW Dance

ROYAL BALLET

PREVIEW Theatre

A frankly desirable Mermaid

A new chapter in the previously troubled history of the Mermaid Theatre at Piccadilly. It now opens next week with *A Streetcar Named Desire*, the first production under its new ownership since its sale last October.

The theatre, so long synonymous with Bernard Miles, who founded and ran it for more than 20 years, is now owned by Gombi Holdings, whose head, Mr Abdul Shami, also owns the Garrick and Duchess Theatre. His declared intention is to continue to run the Mermaid as a live theatre, with improved restaurant and conference facilities.

The production of *A Streetcar Named Desire* comes from the Greenwich Theatre, where it was well received by the critics, and will be the first revival of a Tennessee Williams play in or near the West End since the playwright's death last year. It is produced by Bill Kenwright and directed by Alan Strachan, artistic director of the Greenwich Theatre, who trained at the Mermaid. His other recent West End transfers include *Private Lives* and *Design for Living*.

A Streetcar Named Desire was Williams's second big Broadway success and brought a new frankness to the American

stage with its treatment of nymphomania, homosexuality and rape. It also launched the young Marlon Brando on the road to stardom with his portrayal of the brutish Stanley Kowalski.

The film version, which followed established Brando as an international name, and had Vivien Leigh as Blanche Dubois, the role she played in the West End under the direction of Laurence Olivier. Although the film version is inevitably the better known than the play, it is considerably toned down from the stage version and specially rewritten with a happy ending.

Sheila Gish, who plays Blanche in this new production, was singled out for praise for her performance at Greenwich. She has acted in Tennessee Williams's plays before, notably in the controversial production of *Vieux Carré* at the Piccadilly Theatre in 1978.

After that play opened, Williams insisted on changes in the script which cut some of her speeches and involved her learning new lines. Miss Gish refused on the grounds that the changes meant that the play had "ceased to be the part that I had originally wanted to play so very much", and withdrew from the production.

She has appeared in many West End productions, including Alan Ayckbourn's *Confusions*, also directed by Alan Strachan. Last year she played the title role in Racine's *Berenice* at the Lyric, Hammersmith, and Elena in *Uncle Vanya* at the Haymarket, while immediately before *Streetcar* she played Countess Sophie opposite Alan Bates in *A Patriot For Me* at Chichester.

Brando's former role is played by Paul Herzer, making his West End debut. He has had parts in several television series, including *Smilin' People*, and his films include *Bulshot*.

The omens look good for its re-opening of the Mermaid. Its new owners are determined to attract people to Puddie Dock to make full use of it, and believe the river can be a way of enticing an audience there by boat, or even with a floating dock, by helicopter. The first means of transport, however, is a streetcar.

Christopher Warman

A Streetcar Named Desire previews at the Mermaid, London EC4 (236 5568) from Tues and opens on Feb 28 at 7pm. Then Mon-Sat 7.45pm, matinees Sat at 3pm.



Lively lady: Sheba Gish, outstanding as Blanche Dubois

Critics' choice

THE BIKO INQUEST

Riverside Studios, London (748 3354)

Until Mar 4, Tues-Sun at 8pm

This cool and scriptfully staged

version of the investigation

following the black South African

leader Steve Biko's death

is the first fruit of a new

British actors' company including

Albert Finney (as the questioning

counsel), Michael Gough, Michael

Aldridge and Edward Hardwicke.

THE CUSTOM OF THE COUNTRY

The Pit (628 8795/638 8891)

Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory with

Leah by Edward Bond (Today at

7.30pm) and Tastie by Molière

(Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm; matinée

Thurs at 2pm)

Taking a rare Jacobean comedy as

its starting point, Nicholas Wright's

talé of innocence and folly love in

turn-of-the-century Transvaal has a

highly original flavour and provides

Sir Keleman and Sinead

Cusack with two splendidly

extravagant roles.

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS

Tues-Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory

with Strider by Mark Rylance

(Today at 7.30pm and 7.30pm,

Mon at 7.30pm)

David Mallet's menacing account

of the shark-eat-splat world of US

real estate salesmen has a

resonance that spreads wide: a

cast including Jack Shepherd and

Tony Haygarth in top form do it

justice.

HAY FEVER

Queen's (734 1166)

Until April 14, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm,

Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinées Wed at 3pm

Noel Coward's 1925 comedy about a theatrical family and their mixed bag of persecuted house guests remains hilarious after any number of revivals, and Penelope Keith takes to the leading lady's part as though to the bad manners born.

LEAR

The PH (628 8795/638 8891)

Today at 7.30pm. In repertory with

The Custom of the Country and

Tastie by Molière (Mon-Thurs at

7.30pm; matinée Thurs at 2pm)

Edward Bond's grim prophetic

fantasy on themes from King Lear

is even more compelling in this

close-quarters studio setting.

Squeamish viewers need a torture

warning; otherwise Bob Peck and

the cast promise a provocative,

rewarding experience.

LUCKY BAG

Ambassadors (636 1171)

Until Feb 25, Mon-Sat 8pm

Transferring from the King's Head, Victoria Wood's new show brings an exuberant solo performance and some brilliantly inclusive cabaret songs to brighten the West End.

MASTER CLASS

Old Vic (628 7616)

Until Feb 25, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm,

Sat at 4pm and 7.45pm; matinées

Wed at 2.30pm)

Stain's 1949 pressure session with

composers Prokofiev and

Shostakovich gives David Pownall

the setting for an alarming yet

sometimes horribly funny drama;

full of food for thought on art and

politics and the relation between

them. Timothy West's fearsome

Stalin is a complex study on the

grand scale.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Barbican (628 8795/638 8891)

Today at 2pm and 7.30pm.

In repertory with Maydays and

Cyrano de Bergerac by Edmond

Rostand (Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm;

matinée Thurs at 2pm)

Absolutely not to be missed, Terry

Hinds' production is a sheer

delight and a joyous delighting

in the art of the Royal Shakespeare

Company's current Barbican

season. Derek Jacobi and Sinead

Cusack make a Benedick and

Beatrice of exceptional wit,

intelligence and charm.

NOISES OFF

Savoy (636 8888)

Mon-Fri at 7.15pm, Sat at 5pm and

8.30pm; matinées Wed at 3pm

After two years in London, Michael

Frayn's farce of backstage

mishaps and misbehaviour during a

ghastly rep-fodder sex comedy is

as wildly funny. Amanda Barrie

excels herself as the veteran

character charday and several

newcomers make a bright showing

in a production that gets slicker

with each change of cast.

RENTS

Lyric, Hammersmith (741 2211)

Until Mar 10, Mon-Sat at 7.45pm;

matinées Thurs at 2.30pm, Sat at

4pm

First seen at Hammersmith two

years ago, Michael Wilcox's play

(now directed by William Gaskill)

looks at part-time rent boys in

Edinburgh and their friends, and

finds material for a play full of

understanding, charm and raw wit.

BRISTOL: New Vic (0272 24386)

A David Hause's (6019)

Until Mar 10, Mon-Wed (not Mar 5)

at 7.15pm, Thurs-Sat at 7.45pm

New production of an Ibsen play

regarded by its contemporaries as

subversive and still powerfully

persuasive on the theme of personal

fulfillment and determination.

BRIGHTON: Gardner Centre,

University of Sussex, Falmer

(0273 685861)

Black Miss by John

Constable. Opens Mon at 7.45pm,

matinées Thurs at 2.30pm, Sat at

4pm

First seen at Hammersmith two

years ago, Michael Wilcox's play

(now directed by William Gaskill)

looks at part-time rent boys in

Edinburgh and their friends, and

finds material for a play full of

understanding, charm and raw wit.

COULDRELL: Churchill (460 6677)

Ballerina by Anna Skouli. Until

Feb 25, Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at

8pm; matinées Thurs at 2.30pm, Fri at

2.45pm

Entertainments

What's new on the GLC South Bank?

GLC South Bank Concert Halls, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XX. Tickets: 01-928 3191. Information: 01-928 3002. BOX OFFICE opening hours: Monday to Saturday 10 am to 7 pm. Sundays 1.30 to 7 pm.

CREDIT CARDS 01-928 6544.

GROUP DISCOUNTS available for most Royal Festival and Queen Elizabeth Hall performances; details in monthly diary 'Music on the South Bank' or ring 01-928 3002.

STAND-BY SCHEME Unsold tickets (subject to availability) on sale at £2.00 for Royal Festival Hall and £1.50 for Queen Elizabeth Hall concerts to schools/students, unemployed and senior citizens. Telephone 01-633 0932. Available one hour before start of performance.

Royal Festival Hall

Open all day to everyone. Free lunchtime music. GUIDED TOURS of the Royal Festival Hall, daily at 12.45 pm and 5.30 pm. £1.00 per person. Reservations: 01-928 3191. Credit Cards 01-928 6544.

NICHOLAS JACKSON ORGAN RECITAL

Wednesday 22 February at 5.45 pm in a recital of works by Bach, Reger, Cabanilles, Soler, Jackson. All seats £2.20 £3.50 £4.50 £6.50 £7.50.

VICTOR JARA FESTIVAL

Mercedes Sosa, Angel & Isabel Parra, with special guests in a concert given as part of the GLC Anti-Racism Year. Royal Festival Hall: Friday 2 March at 7.30 pm. £2.20 £3.50 £4.50 £6.50 £7.50.

CARLOS BARROSA-LIMA

Wednesday 22 February at 5.45 pm a recital of works by Bach, Reger, Cabanilles, Soler, Jackson. All seats £2.20 £3.50 £4.50 £6.50 £7.50.

SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY

ROYAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC FOR YOUTH The Hall of 25 outstanding young musicians chosen by W.H. Smith. Twenty ensembles from London and the Home Counties. Orchestra, wind bands, brass bands, vocal groups and choirs. Admissions free.

MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY

FROM MAD TO MOZART (81 min) Academy Award for Best Documentary 1981. Isaac Stern in Cello with David Golub. 'Hugely entrancing, full of drama, interesting scenes, glorious music and sheer fun.' Reviewer: Murray Lerner. ALL SEATS £2.50. Distributed by Entertainer Pictures.

TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY

SPECTRUM Guy Pritchard (conductor) Artistic Series Quartet Chamber Ensemble (1981) Jonathan Harvey (1981) Sir Brinsford Price (1981). Jonathan Harvey will give a solo recital in the QEH on 18.30. £5.00. £6.00. £7.50. £9.00. £11.00. £13.00. £15.00. Ann Mayne Productions Ltd.

WEDNESDAY 29 FEBRUARY

GERALD JONES ORCHESTRA Royal Academy of Music Chamber Ensemble (1981) Jonathan Harvey (1981) Sir Brinsford Price (1981). Michael Head (1981). The 25th Anniversary Concert. Michael Head (The Priest); Head (Harp); Head (Cello). BWL 1985 C.P.E. Bach Magnificat in G (1981). £2.50. £4.50. £6.00. £7.50. £9.00. £11.00. £13.00. £15.00. £17.00. £19.00. £21.00. £23.00. £25.00. £27.00. £29.00. £31.00. £33.00. £35.00. £37.00. £39.00. £41.00. £43.00. £45.00. £47.00. £49.00. £51.00. £53.00. £55.00. £57.00. £59.00. £61.00. £63.00. £65.00. £67.00. £69.00. £71.00. £73.00. £75.00. £77.00. £79.00. £81.00. £83.00. £85.00. £87.00. £89.00. £91.00. £93.00. £95.00. £97.00. £99.00. £101.00. £103.00. £105.00. £107.00. £109.00. £111.00. £113.00. £115.00. £117.00. £119.00. £121.00. £123.00. £125.00. £127.00. £129.00. £131.00. £133.00. £135.00. £137.00. £139.00. £141.00. £143.00. £145.00. £147.00. £149.00. £151.00. £153.00. £155.00. £157.00. £159.00. £161.00. £163.00. £165.00. £167.00. £169.00. £171.00. £173.00. £175.00. £177.00. £179.00. £181.00. £183.00. £185.00. £187.00. £189.00. £191.00. £193.00. £195.00. £197.00. £199.00. £201.00. £203.00. £205.00. £207.00. £209.00. £211.00. £213.00. £215.00. £217.00. £219.00. £221.00. £223.00. £225.00. £227.00. 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THE WEEK AHEAD

Today

INTERNATIONAL CANOE EXHIBITION: The British have a worldwide reputation for building canoes and kayaks and the British firms of Pyranha and Gwily will both be exhibiting their latest crafts. Events include the final of the International knock-out indoor slalom competition, with the two world champions, Richard Fox and Elizabeth Sharman taking part. Visitors can go canoeing and kayaking and see films about all white water sports. National Sports Centre, Crystal Palace, London SE19 (778 0131). Today, 10am-6pm; tomorrow, 9.30am-5.30pm. Adults £2; children aged under 16, £1.

BOAT AND CARAVAN SHOW: For the more energetic holiday-maker. Boats range from sailboats to 40ft motor cruisers and narrowboats; caravans include four models on public show for the first time; and camping equipment and accessories come in the latest shapes and sizes. There is also advice on where to go and how to book. National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (021 780 2516). Today and tomorrow, 11am-6pm; Mon-Fri, 1am-6pm. Adults £2.20; children and pensioners £1.20.

RUGBY UNION: England meet Ireland at Twickenham with both teams seeking their first win of the season. England will be anxious to erase the memory of a disappointing performance against Scotland at Murrayfield, while Ireland have made several changes after defeats by Wales and France. Live coverage on BBC1, Grandstand, from 2.50pm, with at 5.05pm highlights of today's other international in which Wales play France, the favourites for the championship, in Cardiff.

CUP FOOTBALL: The FA Cup reaches the fifth round with several unfaired teams in with an excellent chance of progressing further. The ties include Watford at home to Brighton, conquerors of Liverpool; Oxford United, who have enjoyed some excellent recent results; the visitors against Sheffield Wednesday and Derby County v Norwich City. The sixth round draw can be heard on Radio 2, Mon, at 12.30pm.

Tomorrow

ONE PAIR OF EYES: The first subject of a new series of personal films is Beryl Cook, the artist known for her paintings of round women doing anything from playing bowls to striping. She regards her art as entirely without a message, merely getting down on canvas the events which amuse and interest her. She lives with her husband, a car salesman, in Plymouth, the city which has provided the setting for most of her pictures. BBC2, 8.05-8.35pm.

Monday

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY: On tour to Newcastle upon Tyne for six weeks. Productions include *Twelfth Night* (from



On the road: How the French saw the caravan of the future. The Caravan and Boat Show begins today

Collecting

Be it ever so humble, it is still folk art

From the unpretentious dealer in a red Vermont barn to the prestige salerooms of Madison Avenue, the American antiques trade knows both the value and the decorative appeal of its native folk art. It is a decorative rhetoric which speaks of humble beginnings, of settlers from many different European origins, of Puritan beliefs in thrift, ingenuity and hard work, and of the courage and hope of those early communities.

It is a democratic style which, while it cannot be divorced from the inherited skills of English needlewomen, German or Norwegian furniture painters or other whittler and carver ancestors, is far from the

European court styles. The first Americans had fled from the burdens imposed by European royalty, and it is perhaps still in support of that early independence that such great American families as Rockefeller, Ford and Dupont have made some of the finest collections of American folk art.

An exhibition of 130 items from the Museum of American Folk Art in New York is now open at the Barbican Centre; the objects on display vary from weather-vanes and hunting decoys to painted furniture and quilts, all dating from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. While many will enjoy the clear and simple beauties of the exhibits, relishing a reminder of the history of the Mayflower or the Boston Tea Party, the show also begs an important question: if this is popular work, derived from traditions handed down by immigrants from Europe, especially from Britain, then what has become of that legacy here at home?

Many people in Britain already have in their collections items from subjects which, taken together, would amount to an English folk art — samplers, quilts, iron doorstops, copper pans, treen, woolwork, ship embroideries, slipware or Staffordshire figures. But such an accumulation of objects does not somehow add up to a similar stylistic cohesion when seen as "country furniture", or even as a local (most notably, Welsh) genre.

There are a few isolated characters who have documented English popular art — including barge art, fairings, kitchen utensils and street furniture such as inn and shop signs — in an effort to recall aspects of rural life as they themselves remembered it before the First World War. Enid Marx and Margaret Lambert's two books on the subject, published in 1946 and 1951, are among the most recent; the designer Enid Marx was a friend and contemporary of such potters and textile designers as Bernard Leach, Michael Cardew, Phyllis Barron and Dorothy Larcher who were trying in their own work to resuscitate almost forgotten crafts.

One person who has championed British folk art is the Hungarian-born art dealer



Admiral Lord Exmouth, an English watercolour of about 1815, from the Kalman collection

Andras Kalman. In 1980 he opened Crane Folk Art and Americana, a gallery in Sloane Street, London SW1, which sells all manner of English and American folk art. He has also put together a fascinating collection of English naive paintings, dating from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, which, more than any text book, shows the true background to the painted furniture, cow creamers, shop signs (including a magnificent set of pawnbroker's bats), painted milk churns and brass freemason's boxes which are to be found in the gallery.

The British were less puritanical than their American cousins in their choice of subject-matter, and Kalman's paintings show such pastimes as bear-baiting and cock-fighting, as well as matters of pride such as prize bulls, hounds, cocks and hawks. At Crane Folk Art, the most expensive painting might be around £8,000, while £1,200 would buy an imposing portrait, painted on tin, of a

man (not a gentleman!) in a magnificent top hat.

What is vital to the value of such pieces is that they have not been restored or even, generally, cleaned, and that, in the case of paintings, the work is in its original frame.

Andras Kalman says that folk art is one of the few areas in collecting where all you need is a discerning eye: it is an art which is refreshing and amusing, with a stunning simplicity of form that can rival twentieth-century abstract sculpture. For the collector, it is an area where new combinations of object, material and colour can be used to create a totally individual look.

Isabelle Anscombe
"American Folk Art: Expressions of a New Spirit" is at the Barbican Art Gallery, Silk Street, London EC2 (038 4141) until April 1. Tues-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12-6pm. Admission £1.20; 50p children, students, senior citizens, disabled, jobless. *Isabelle Anscombe* is executive editor of *Antique Dealer & Collectors Guide*.

This summer, for the first time in 20 years, steam trains will be in regular service on the West Highland line in Scotland, providing a 41-mile journey from Fort William to Mallaig through some of the finest scenery on the British Rail network.

Much has been made, and rightly, of the efforts of the bands of volunteers in rescuing branch lines threatened with closure and restoring steam to them. Less has been said about British Rail's own contribution to keeping steam alive.

Ever since that dark year of 1968 which saw the official end of steam working on BR, enthusiasts have been campaigning to get steam back on to the national rail system. With no disrespect to the private lines, most run only for a few miles and can offer only a brief taste of the merits of steam travel.

Negotiations between BR and the owners of surviving steam locomotives proved fruitful and BR agreed to make a number of secondary routes available for steam, as long as essential facilities, such as turntables and water, could be provided. Trial runs were held to test the market.

The response was encouraging but BR was adamant that any steam services in which it was involved should aim to pay their way. That meant running the trains on virtually a commercial basis and selling tickets not only to a limited number of railway buffs but appealing to as wide a public as possible.

The first regular service to be introduced was along the Cumbrian coast from Carnforth to Sellafield, via Grange-over-Sands.

BR supplied the coaches and hired the engines from private owners, thus setting the pattern for future ventures. This was followed by the Cumbrian Mountain Express, again starting from Carnforth but heading southeast before taking the magnificent Settle route to Carlisle.

Within a year or so a similar initiative was launched in York, a traditional railway centre and home of the National Railway Museum. To start with, steam trains did the round trip from York to Leeds and Harrogate

and back but the service was later extended to Scarborough so that holidaymakers could travel by steam to the seaside.

With Scarborough Corporation backing the scheme by putting up the money for a turntable, the Scarborough Spa Express has become a popular feature of the Yorkshire summer, hauling well-filled trains of people prepared to pay a £2 premium over the normal fare just to experience the smell and sound of steam.

The locomotives have been provided by the National Railway Museum, the Humber-side Railway Preservation Group and the Steamtown railway museum at Carnforth. Last summer seven locos took it in turns to pull the Scarborough Spa Express, including the Princess Pacific Class Duchess of Hamilton, the Southern's City of Wells and the last steam

engine built for BR, the Evening Star.

Crews are recruited from BR staff, who have been only too happy to volunteer for steam duty. For the older hands it has been a chance to re-polish skills long since abandoned, such as being a fireman; while special courses have been held to instruct younger men on the subtleties of steam.

Arguably, sharper black and white prints can be achieved with a condenser head, but as this also tends to magnify every speck of dust or scratch, most photographers prefer to use colour heads for black and white photography.

Smaller enlargers for average amateur use are priced between £60 and £100; top of the range professional-class models from £200 to £600. Good makes

include Krokus, Meopta, LPL, Gnome, Durst, De Vere, Phillips and Fujimoto. Adding a timer, £16 to £30, enables accurate repeat printing.

Other essential items are:

• Plastic film tank and spirals, £5.

• Closing bag (a light-tight bag with armholes for loading film on to spirals for use if your darkroom is not completely light-tight), £4.50.

• Thermometer, £3.

• Processing dishes, set of three, £5.

• Lire measuring jug, £1.50.

• Funnel, £1.

• Collapsible storage bottles, £2.50 to £4 each.

• Print tongs, £2.

• Not essential, but useful time-savers if you have money to spare, are:

• Durst UT100 film-drying cabinet (detachable wall-mounted), £70.

• Photax dish heater, £8.

• Photax resin-coated paper, £34.

If this list seems a little daunting, Paterson and Durst make up complete kits from £70 to £120. Finally, add £20 to budget for chemicals and paper.

At Home



Photography

Pleasure in store, but keep it dark

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On the subject of electricity, a

word or two about safelights.

Amber safelights used in

black and white printing can be

quite expensive, but does not

need to be.

A 15-watt amber

lacquered safelight bulb

provides sufficient illumination for a small darkroom. Alternatively, small detachable wall-mounted units made by Paterson cost only about £50.

Going upmarket, excellent

fluorescent safelights by Encap

lites with double-pull switch

mechanisms in a single or

double baton can be obtained at

big process-equipment dealers.

Prices range from £20 to £50

depending on size.

Now for the equipment. At

the top of your shopping list

will be the enlarger.

An enlarger is

the most

expensive

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Mercantile takes off for the City of the future

What began last summer as a few straws in the wind is now rapidly emerging as a haystack. Yesterday two portentous deals indicated the shape of the City to come. Mercantile House, the ambitious group led by the most energetic Mr John Barksdale, made an agreed offer of £29m for Alexander's Discount, the third biggest discount house. In the afternoon, the mighty National Westminster revealed that it proposes to buy a stake in Bisgood Bishop, the stockjobbers.

In a general sense, neither move is a surprise. Mercantile House's aspirations have not been the City's best kept secret, and it was inevitable that the clearing banks, linchpins of the City, should show an interest in direct securities trading. But the demonstration effect on other City operators will not be lost.

For what are firms positioning themselves? Mr Barksdale has a firm answer. He believes – and Mr Jeremy Hardie, Alexander's vice-chairman and chief strategist apparently agrees – that the City firm of the future will embrace all elements of the securities business: market making, distribution to customers, overseas markets, and sufficient capital.

Hidden profits

Purchasing Alexander's is the first staging post along a road on which the next stopping place is a stockbroker. Mercantile has the overseas capacity through Opcos in New York, and will provide the capital to fuel expansion – even if by the liberal issuing of paper. Alexander's will bring to the recipe the necessary market-making skills, and a stockbroker will add the customers. The final step is 24-hour global trading, and it is not coincidental that Mr Barksdale is off to Tokyo today to pursue negotiations with Japanese stockbrokers.

This policy is based on two assumptions. The first is that securities houses of the kind already familiar on Wall Street are also the future in London. The second is that time is short (between September and December last year Mr Barksdale decided that this was the way forward) and that building up one's own team is difficult. Whole firms must be bought in single gulps.

Not everybody, however, would necessarily agree with these assumptions. The London institutional background is completely different from New York, and that will inevitably guide the shape of the new market firms. Alexander's is a prime example. The Bank of England appears reluctant for the moment to allow the present balance of competition in the discount market to be upset. Alexander's will therefore have to keep its money market operations separate from the other activities, such as Eurobonds, it may want to undertake. The Bank frowns equally on Mercantile pumping money into the discount market through Alexander's and on Alexander's taking capital out of the market to fund new adventures.

There is also the little matter of Alexander's hidden profits and reserves. It seems that Alexander's and Mercantile are considering arrangements similar to those reported by Clive Discount and Sime Darby and by Guinness Mahon and Guinness Peat. But in this new, open and competitive age is that right? As it is, Alexander's revealed that its fully disclosed capital and reserves were £23.9m, rather

more than the £18.7m glimpsed in the last accounts.

But Mercantile is undoubtedly taking a medium-term view, and these technical difficulties can be resolved. Of far greater concern to Mercantile, its competitors and to the authorities, is the gilts market. The message from both of yesterday's announcements is that single capacity is dead. That in turn threatens the commission income of the top dozen or so gilts-edged brokers.

The Bank of England is not alarmed by the prospect of new forces entering the gilts market. Its vital concern is that the market remains liquid and efficient – code words for ensuring that the Government can always sell its debt. If the cosy combination of the Government Broker (what is his future?), Wedd Durlacher and Akroyd & Smithers is to end, will the likes of Mercantile House be able to take their place?

Mr Barksdale is clearly singling out the will be only too delighted to give it a try. There is equally little doubt that the big American bond houses are itching to enter the market, either directly in competition with London houses or in alliance with them. The authorities may be ambiguous in their attitude towards American involvement, attracted by the prospect of the extra liquidity they would provide, nervous that it might disappear as fast as it came if, for example, expansion by a Labour government convinced them the gilts game was over. They are, however, more definite on their views about investor protection, a sensitive matter since the British government bond market, unlike America, is still important for private investors.

Mercantile House and others who take the same route may find that the authorities become keen on the practical if invisible separations between the parts of these new empires. Being the pioneer – if that is indeed the mantle on Mr Barksdale's shoulders – can also have its price, in two senses. One is the difficulty of constructing a unified market making and securities trading those to the authorities' satisfaction. The other is the literal cost of buying the next wing of the edifice.

Who next?

Mercantile's offer of 17 shares for every 12 of Alexander's ordinary values Alexander's at 576p a share, a premium of about 25 per cent over the then market price. It values Alexander's in total at £29m. Such a price seems a fair compromise between the uneven nature of discount house profits and the uses to which Mercantile wants to put Alexander's. Much will depend on how fast Mercantile and Alexander's can deploy the latter's market-making skills to the whole group's advantage.

Such problems notwithstanding, the pace and pressure of events now seems to prompt one question: who next? Mr Barksdale's vision of Mercantile House may not be the only model, but variations on the theme are plentiful and plausible. After several years of hesitation and speculation the City is seeing a new breed of market operators – big, wide-ranging, well-capitalized, aggressive, and British. The test will be whether these new British creations can sell their skills in other international centres.

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans 9½
fixed 9-9½
3 month interbank 9½-9¾

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9½-10½
3 month DM 5½-5¾
3 month Fr 15½-15¾

US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9½
Treasury long bond 9½-10

Bid for Maynards fails

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Lewis Cartier's part-bid for Maynards, the sweet, toy and newsagent business, has failed. The former butcher's roundsman who built up Cartier's Superfoods before selling out to Tesco, wanted to acquire control of Maynards to create Britain's first national chain of toyshops. But yesterday he announced that ordinary shareholders had accepted his offer for only 39.7 per cent of the shares. Yesterday he said that he had devoted himself entirely to the Maynards bid and had nothing

MONEY MARKETS

From an initial 3½ per cent, interbank money eased to 9½ – 8½ per cent yesterday, after the authorities gave early assistance in the discount market by way of a hefty "reprisal". By mid-afternoon, money was to be found at rates down to 7 per cent but there was a late and steep upturn, to 10½ – 15 per cent.

Closing rates were variously reported anywhere between 10 and 15 per cent.

Period rates again showed little change, though business proved fairly good during the morning. Activity tailed off after lunch.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

A good week for the pound which closed at \$1.4505, helped during the week by reports that Middle East hostilities could threaten oil supplies. Sterling's close was 55 points better at 1.4505 the first close above 1.45 since January 2.

Dealers said the long New York weekend had added to some late hectic activity after a reasonably quiet morning yesterday.

Although still not within

sight of its next lower chart point against the Deutsche mark, the dollar finished below the best to European currencies – DM 2.6810 (DM 2.6725) and FF 8.26 (FF 8.2415).

Sterling closed 2½ pence stronger against the Deutsche Mark at 3.8925, 6½ centimes up on French Francs at 11.97, 1½ centimes better to Swiss Francs at 3.19 and 2½ Dutch cents better to the Guilder at 4.39. It also gained against the Yen

and the Canadian dollar.

BAe seeks further £16m of state aid

By Andrew Cornelius

British Aerospace, which is anxiously awaiting a government decision to approve a £437m funding for a new European Airbus A320 project, is seeking a further £16m towards the cost of a £130m programme to build an experimental European jet fighter.

The plea for additional aircraft incorporating the latest technology comes after the decision by West Germany's Messerschmitt-Bolkow-Blohm to pull out of the project. Details of the decision are revealed in the latest edition of the *International Defence Review*.

British Aerospace was unable to confirm officially yesterday that the West German company had withdrawn from the programme, seen as the forerunner of a planned five-nation collaboration on a new generation of jet fighters. However, senior aerospace sources suggest that Messerschmitt declined to lead to valuable orders

NatWest seeks approval for link with leading jobbers

By Philip Robinson

National Westminster, one of the Big Four high street banks, is poised to buy up to 29.9 per cent of Bisgood Bishop, London's fifth largest stockbroker and the leading market maker in unlisted securities. It would be the first stake taken by a London clearing bank in a member firm of the Stock Exchange.

Bisgood, whose profits soared last year from £767,000 to £2.4m after losses in 1981, is likely to show record profits when its year ends in April.

The proposed link needs the consent of the Stock Exchange. Once this has been obtained subject to unspecified conditions the proposals will be put to shareholders of Bisgood.

"With a view to NatWest acquiring a substantial interest in the equity of Bisgood."

The link is the clearest evidence yet of the radical changes in the City since the Stock Exchange agreed to adopt a more open policy. This was designed to allow member firms to increase in size and compete for international securities business which it had been losing to the huge American investment banks.

The reforms were promised by the Stock Exchange in return for the Government dropping the restrictive practices case against its rule book.

Just hours before the NatWest/Bisgood link emerged officially, Mercantile House

investments (linked with British and Commonwealth Shipping), Williams & Glyn's and Legal and General Assurance own 9.8 per cent each. London Trust and Witton Investment each have 6 per cent. Mr Ed Puxley, Mr Brian Winterlood and Mr Brian Cavill between them control 11.4 per cent.

The presence of the British and Commonwealth stake had sparked rumours that Exco International and rivals of Merchantile House, were involved in talks with Bisgood.

Under Stock Exchange rules any one outside firm may own a maximum of 29.9 per cent of a member firm and can put two executive directors on the board.

Dow makes headway

New York (AP - Dow Jones). Shares continue to make headway in moderate early trading on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday.

The Dow Jones Industrial Index was up by 5½ points. Advances were slightly ahead of declines.

Dorchester Gas Corp was up 10½ after a delayed opening for an announcement. It has reached an agreement with Dawson Oil on a proposed tender offer for part of the company. Dawson was trading at 7½, unchanged.

Nashua Corp, fell 1½ to 21½. It plans to sell one million shares of its common stock.

• The US gross national product, after adjusting for inflation, rose by a revised 4.9 per cent at a seasonally-adjusted annual rate in the fourth quarter of last year, the US Commerce Department reported in Washington. This is slower than in the third quarter

STOCK EXCHANGES

SE 100 Index: 1039.0 up 4.0 day's high 1039.0, low 1035.0

FT Index: 816.2 down 1.7

FT All Share: 491.99 up 1.07

By Our Financial Staff

Collier staff offered 20% stake

Employees of Collier Holdings, the new company which controls the John Collier menswear chain are to be offered a 20 per cent stake in the business. The chain was acquired from Hanson Trust for £47.5m in a management buyout.

Yesterday Mr Sterling promised that if Trafalgar did come back he would "give Trafalgar a run for its money".

• The Royal Princess, P&O's new flagship, will be named formally by the Princess of Wales in Southampton in nine months (Michael Baily writes from Helsinki). The occasion was presaged here by a ceremony conducted in the Arctic winter with a bucket of warm water thrown over specially from Southampton Docks.

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CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling

Index 815.0 up 55pts

Index 82.5 up 0.4

DM 3.8925 up 0.0225

Fr 11.97 up 0.0650

Investment

Farmers reap BES benefits

Investing in farming may not be what the Chancellor intended when he introduced the generous tax reliefs under the new Business Expansion Scheme, but that is what everyone is doing.

Latest farming scheme on offer is Formfield PLC. Unlike most of the other BES funds, this is a single company seeking to raise money under the BES scheme. Investors should be entitled to tax relief at their highest rate paid on up to £4,000 invested in a BES scheme – provided the investment gets Inland Revenue approval.

Formfield is seeking a minimum of £500,000 but expects to get as much as £8m. With most of the return from BES investments coming from the tax relief, farming is an ideal vehicle for taking advantage of this relief since the risk of losing your money is low – provided the money has been used to purchase land.

Observers believe the Chancellor may take steps in his coming Budget to exclude farming from the list of BES qualifying investments, but it seems unlikely that he would make such a move retrospective.

Minimum investment is £500. Applications must be received by April 3, 1984.

Tax on parking

Parking spaces at the offices are the latest perk to attract the attention of the Inland Revenue. According to Dearden Farrow, the chartered accountant, tax inspectors are now looking closely at this perk to see if employers could be liable for tax on the value of their parking space.

There should, however, be a distinction between the provision of space for an employee's or director's own car, which almost certainly is caught in the tax net and the provision of space for the company car allocated to that employee, states Dearden Farrow. In the latter case, the space is being used by the company's property and not by the individual.

Smoking hazards

Statistics show that more smokers than non-smokers are also drinkers. Smokers who smoke are less likely to take up smoking and they are even more accident prone. This is a piece of research quoted by Old Foundry Insurance Services justifying non-smokers' discounts on motor insurance.

Apart from the obvious dangers of lighting, handling and disposing of cigarettes when driving, there does appear to be a correlation between the smoker and the drinker", says OFIS, which offers preferential terms on motor insurance premiums for non-smokers.

Figure it out

Have you ever wondered what percentage of households have a TV set, how many students there are in Britain or what the population is overall? Wonder no more. The latest issue of the United

Kingdom in Figures is out and is available free from the Central Statistical Office. Average house prices have risen from £7,400 in 1972 to £24,600 in 1982. Life expectancy has gone up from 73.8 years for women in 1962 to 76.2 in 1982, while the number of deaths from cancer has risen from 115,000 to 130,000 over the same period, according to the useful booklet.

Holiday bait

Investors tempted by the latest discount offer from Barclays Unicorn should remember that a discount is only of value if you wanted the item anyway.

A new unit trust from Barclays Unicorn will invest in the leisure and entertainment industry and as a perk anyone investing £1,000 or more will be entitled to a discount on a Black Sea cruise aboard VistaJord, Cunard's latest luxury liner. This is in addition to the discounts on Cunard cruises already available to Barclays' unitholders.

The increase in unit holders, the shorter working week, a trend towards early retirement and wider availability of leisure-wining devices in the home have all influenced the growth of the leisure industry", said Mr Clive Fenn Smith of Barclays Unicorn.

Bond redemption

National Savings is repaying its 9½ per cent Savings Bonds (second issue) which were issued from December 16, 1978 and June, 15, 1979, at £104 per cent this year. No further interest will be paid on the Bonds once they have matured so remember to cash them in.

Repayment forms have been sent to holders, but if you have not received one, contact the Bonds & Stock Office, Blackpool, Lancs, FY3 9YP.

Canada Life in a friendly link-up

Everybody is doing it – getting a friendly society link. Canada Life is the latest to join up with a friendly society, Lancashire and Yorkshire Assurance Society in this case, to offer the Family Investment Bond.

The appeal of friendly

societies is their tax-exempt status and Canada Life is promoting this investment as suitable for those with a lump sum.

The idea is that investors hand out £1,780 to Canada Life which is used to buy a

temporary annuity, the payments on which fund the regular insistments onto the 10-year friendly society scheme. Canada Life benefits in two ways. It takes a profit on the temporary annuity and then reinvests the money.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	0%
Barclays	0%
BCCI	0%
Citibank Savings	10%
Consolidated Credit	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

Mortgage Base Rate

7-day deposits on sums of under £10,000, from £10,000 up to £20,000, 64%; £20,000 and over, 7%

company is bound by the Ombudsman's decision, but the individual is not and retains the right to go to court in the usual way.

Another Head Start

The immensely popular Head Start in Business scheme sponsored by the Abbey National Building Society and for young London unemployed by the Industrial Society has been extended to Nottingham.

Head Start in Business invites 17 to 22 year olds in the Nottingham area who are unemployed to put forward ideas for setting up and running their own businesses. Ideas are selected by a panel of experts and the winner is backed by Abbey National and the county council, with practical advice from the Industrial Society.

When the scheme was run in London, nearly 250 young people came forward with ideas for starting their own business, and 20 of them have now put them into action.

Where appropriate, Abbey National may license its young business person to use vacant accommodation above an Abbey Building Society branch. Cash help is also available.

Banks which offer free services, so long as your account is kept in credit include the Yorkshire Williams & Glyn's, Co-op Bank (make sure you ask for an ordinary current account) and Girobank. But the latter does have the disadvantage of no overdrafts.

Discount saving

J

Junior savers with Leicester Building Society are being offered a range of discounts on cameras, books, cassettes, toys and sports equipment, provided a minimum of £10 is maintained in the account.

With a Moneyclub card, savers under

17 are entitled to reductions of 45 per cent on Ensign sports rackets and Halina cameras. For younger savers, there are 25 per cent discounts on the Tiny Candy range of stationary and toletry and one year's free membership of the Pelham Puppet Club.

Generally speaking, a building society investment with tax deducted at source (not reclaimable) is not the best home for a child's money. But at the moment, the differential between the 8.25 per cent easily obtainable from building society "extra interest" account and the alternatives is not sufficiently large for the tax deduction to matter.

Those who worry endlessly about their investments may have a solution to their misery. The Henderson unit trust management group has installed an investment hotline (01 673 8755) which gives its latest investment recommendations. At the moment, Henderson is using it to bring attention to its new Singapore and Malaysian trust.

You have to sit through an account with Henderson investment history (one of the most innovative in the market, etc) before you get to the important points. There is also a facility to leave messages. It will be interesting to see what sort of comments would be investors leave on the anaphone.

Start-up insurance

Richards Longstaff (Insurance) has launched a policy aimed at small businesses just beginning. Mr Gordon Avant, a director of Richards Longstaff, said: "We looked at the life hazards of small business start-ups and produced the cheapest possible comprehensive plan that would meet the needs.

"For example, if you were an employer in the clothing industry with plant and stock valued at £30,000 giving a gross profit value of £60,000 and six employees and you took the full scheme, the cost would be £14 a week".



JAMES HASWELL
Insurance Ombudsman

Ombudsman support

The Gower report's proposal that all insurance companies should be obliged to join the Insurance Ombudsman's Bureau has been welcomed by James Souter, a former Chairman of the Association of Scottish Life Offices. He said: "I am extremely happy to see this move as the nine Scottish Life Offices joined Insurance Ombudsman Bureau en masse in 1982".

The Insurance Ombudsman is an independent arbitrator in disputes between policyholders and companies, and offers a free service to members of the public. An important point is that the

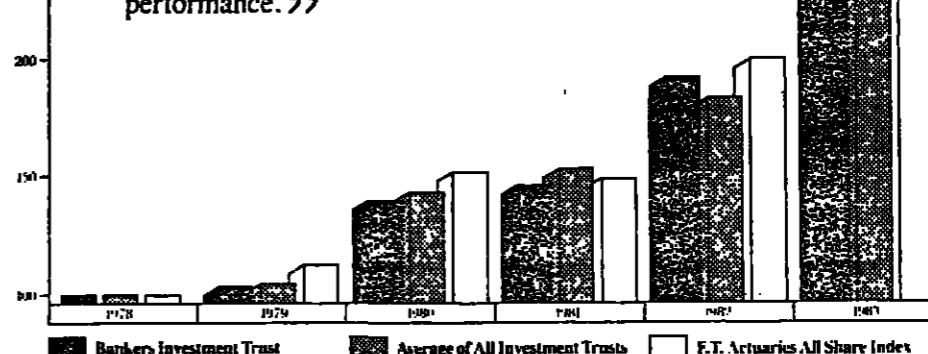
Free banking

Last year more than 230,000 people realised that it was not necessary to pay bank charges and so opened an account with Yorkshire Bank. Clearly heavier charges at all banks and, particularly, the NatWest, are beginning to bite, and customers are shopping around for a better deal.

The Bankers' Investment Trust, PLC

Cumulative Growth in Total Return

"Our objective is to maximise shareholders' total return with increasing emphasis on capital performance."



Highlights for the year to 31 October 1983:

- Net asset value up 33.2% to 169 1/2p per share
- Dividend up 5.2% to 4.16p per share
- 1 for 1 scrip issue proposed
- Total assets £68 million: 55% UK, 30% USA, 9% Japan
- Net exposure to US dollar 21% of net assets



To: The Company Secretary, The Bankers' Investment Trust, PLC, McDonald House, 2 Puddle Dock, London, EC4V 3AT.
Please send me a copy of your latest annual report.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CRESCENT JAPAN INVESTMENT TRUST PLC

Highlights from the 1983 Annual Report

1983 was a year of outstanding growth. Net assets increased by 70.1%, the fourth best performance in 1983 of all investment trusts monitored by the AJTC.

- The emphasis on high-rated electronics and technology sectors is being progressively reduced.
- Reinvestment is being made in the consumer and capital spending sectors which are the likely beneficiaries of the large increases in production and corporate profits expected in 1984.
- Investments have been made in four companies listed on the 'over-the-counter' market.
- A capitalisation issue of four new ordinary shares of 50p each for every one held by members on the register on 26 March 1984 is proposed.
- The objective of Crescent Japan Investment Trust plc is to achieve long-term capital appreciation through investment in Japanese equities.

Copies of these reports may be obtained from EDINBURGH FUND MANAGERS PLC



"If London Life policies are so good, why does my broker never recommend them?"

London Life's advantages from the policyholder's point of view are no secret.

In fact, if you read the insurance press (Planned Savings, for example, or Money Management) you will find London Life at, or pretty near the top of most of the performance tables.

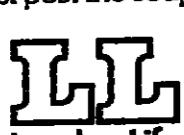
So it may be something of a surprise to learn that the great majority of London Life's new business comes, not through brokers, but on the personal recommendation of existing policyholders and professional advisers.

The reasons are simple.

London Life does not pay commission to anyone – even their own staff. Their staff are trained to give expert advice rather than sales talk.

That, in a nutshell, is why you will never hear much about London Life from intermediaries in the ordinary course of events.

And it is also why you could be well advised to find out more for yourself. Just post the coupon, and we will send you the facts.



The non-commission way of Life

£50,000 of cover for less than £4 a month*.

The most economical way to provide protection for your family and dependants is term assurance; and London Life's policies offer exceptional value. A man of 29 can have £50,000 of cover for under £4 a month; and that includes the right to change the policy into a permanent one at a later date – at normal premium rates, and with no further medical evidence.

*Based on a man aged 30 next birthday paying a monthly premium of £3.94 for fifteen years, and allowing for life assurance premium relief, at present 15%.



Saving for retirement?
With London Life your savings can attract a net yield of 21% p.a.*

With London Life you can turn a net outlay of just £50 per month over a ten year period into a cash fund of £18,219* to provide retirement benefits.

That's a remarkable net annual yield of 21%, made possible by taking full advantage of tax relief and backed by London Life's outstanding record of investment performance.

*Based on a 30% taxpayer aged 55 retiring at 65 and assuming that current bonus and premium rates are maintained.



Endowment: how London Life can offer you 41% more than the average benefits projected by the other leading insurance companies.

According to Planned Savings' August 1982 Survey, the average projected benefit for a 25 year endowment policy is £19,765 for an annual premium of £212.50.

London Life's figure is £27,910 for the same outlay – an extra benefit of no less than £8,145*.

*Based on a man aged 30 next birthday paying an annual premium of £212.50 for 25 years and assuming bonus rates remain unchanged, and allowing for life assurance premium relief, at present 15%.



Amongst the leaders in unit linked assurance.

Linked life assurance can offer exciting growth opportunities – provided you choose an insurance company with a consistently impressive investment record. London Life for example.

Money Management's March 1983 Survey shows that our Equity and Mixed Funds are the sector leaders over the three year period up to February 1983. Our other Funds also appear regularly amongst the leaders in the performance table – another tribute to London Life's investment managers and another reason for you to look closely at London Life.



One of the cheapest ways to repay a Mortgage.

From April 1983, a mortgage linked to a low-cost endowment policy is probably the best way to buy your house. So you need only ask yourself one simple question – whose low-cost endowment policy to buy? Fortunately the answer is simple – London Life's Home Loan Policy. The evidence can be seen in Planned Savings (March 1983) and Money Management (September 1982).



Protect your income with a London Life Income Bond.

If you are investing for income, the lower interest rates now prevailing must be of some concern. A reduced income with no guarantee that it will not be reduced further in the months ahead, makes any kind of financial planning for the future uncertain. There is a solution.

The London Life 10 Year Income Bond.

FAMILY MONEY

Wills

It pays to revise your last word

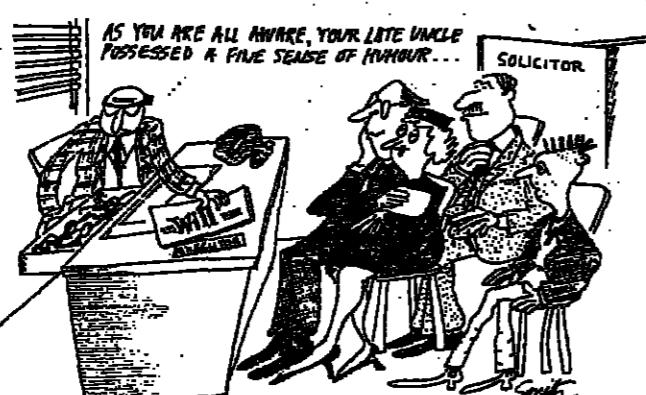
The old lady who makes a hobby of reviewing her will and altering it according to changing circumstances has something to teach all of us. Review your will regularly - at least every five years.

By its nature, a will is your last word and you should make it on the basis that you will be hit by a bus before the ink is dry.

The most brief of wills was said to read "Give the works to Maud" and that was sufficient - so far as it went. However, modern travel increases the possibility of husband and wife dying together as likely as not while they are young and so a young couple with infant children should make careful financial provision and appoint guardians for those children if they are orphaned.

With rising house values, pension scheme benefits and accident and term insurance policies producing substantial sums of money on death, not everyone will wish their offspring to have outright control of large sums of money at 18 - which is what the law provides unless you stipulate otherwise in your will.

Remember that the market value of the average home is about £30,000 and would probably be free of any mort-



gage (being covered by a mortgage protection policy).

On top of that, a lump sum death-in-service benefit from an occupational pension scheme might produce the same amount again; so a total of £60,000 could be available for a young person at 18.

What about that pension scheme? It is not uncommon for occupational pension schemes to pay out two, three or even four times salary on death in service.

There is an important tax consideration here. Although gifts by will to surviving

spouses are tax free, gifts to any one else (above a certain figure) are not tax free. On the other hand, death duty legislation usually renders a lump sum payment from your pension scheme on your death exempt from capital transfer tax.

So if your wife dies with you, or you want to pass some cash on to the children direct and free of capital transfer tax - and you want to minimize tax and avoid the possibility of young persons controlling large sums of money at 18 - organize matters so that the pension scheme money is paid out for

David Martin

National Insurance

How to save cash on extra jobs

Each year, millions of pounds in national insurance payments are made when they do not have to be.

With heavier contributions starting in a few weeks, more and more people will find that there can be big money involved.

On top of this, the 100,000 or so people who find themselves in this situation every year tend to do little about the matter. Most seem content to wait and let the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS) pay back the money later. This is surprising, when in some cases the sum involved may be hundreds of pounds.

This situation arises for two reasons. First, some people are tending to take part-time, second (and, in some cases, even third) jobs to earn extra cash to help make ends meet.

Second, the NI arrangements which came into operation in 1975 meant that contributions had to be paid in every job a person took, be it self-employed or as an employee.

So, when someone has more than one job, it now means paying two, and perhaps three, times over.

The cash involved can be quite large. From April, those

earning £250 or more a week have to pay about £1,190 a year in NI (equal to £22.50 a week). Those with earnings like this from two jobs will pay out twice as much in the first instance, unless they take action to avoid it. On the bright side, he can avoid having to pay any extra contributions in his second job by applying to "defer" them.

Alternatively, take the case of someone who has three jobs and will be earning, say, £200, £75 and £40 a week. Because wages in jobs one and two take him up to the limit, he can ask to be excused from paying contributions in job three. And because he will still pay more than the maximum in jobs one and two, he can look forward to a refund at the end of the year as well.

Of course, if in either of these cases the person concerned does not ask for his contributions to be put off, he will end up paying all the extra, although he will get it back at the end of the 1984-85 tax year. Even so, it makes sense not to pay in the first place, if you can avoid it.

The DHSS produces two free leaflets which give details.

"More than one job" (number NP28) is for those work only as employees. "Class 4 contributions" (number NP18) is for those with a mixture of employed and self-employed jobs. Both have application forms.

Ian McDonald

Looking out for women investors

Women exist - that's official. When unit trust managers like Tyndall think it is worth advertising specifically to attract female investors, then women have indeed arrived.

It is hoped that women will have the sense to realize that now might not be the ideal time to invest and wait until markets settle down before making any decision.

PUBLISHER'S OFFER

Take Stockmarket Confidential Free for six weeks, and we'll show you how to double your capital



Early every Thursday morning a small number of extremely well informed investors quietly snap up whatever is available of certain shares.

They act with speed and total confidence. Within days (sometimes even hours) they have repeated huge profits.

Their information comes from a private newsletter called Stockmarket Confidential.

And it's certainly not uncommon for these shareholders to be in possession of knowledge which would allow them to double their capital in six weeks or less.

Which is why I have chosen a period of six weeks to let you read and profit from Stockmarket Confidential for yourself absolutely free.

If we haven't shown you how to double your capital during this time, then cancel your subscription, and it won't have cost you a penny.

The secret of investment success

The only way to make a killing on the Stockmarket is to have reliable advice and the ability to move fast, before the word gets round and prices rocket.

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If you haven't acted on our "hot tips" by Thursday lunchtime you've missed the boat - other SMC subscribers will have already pushed prices up.

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James P Williams

Publisher SMC

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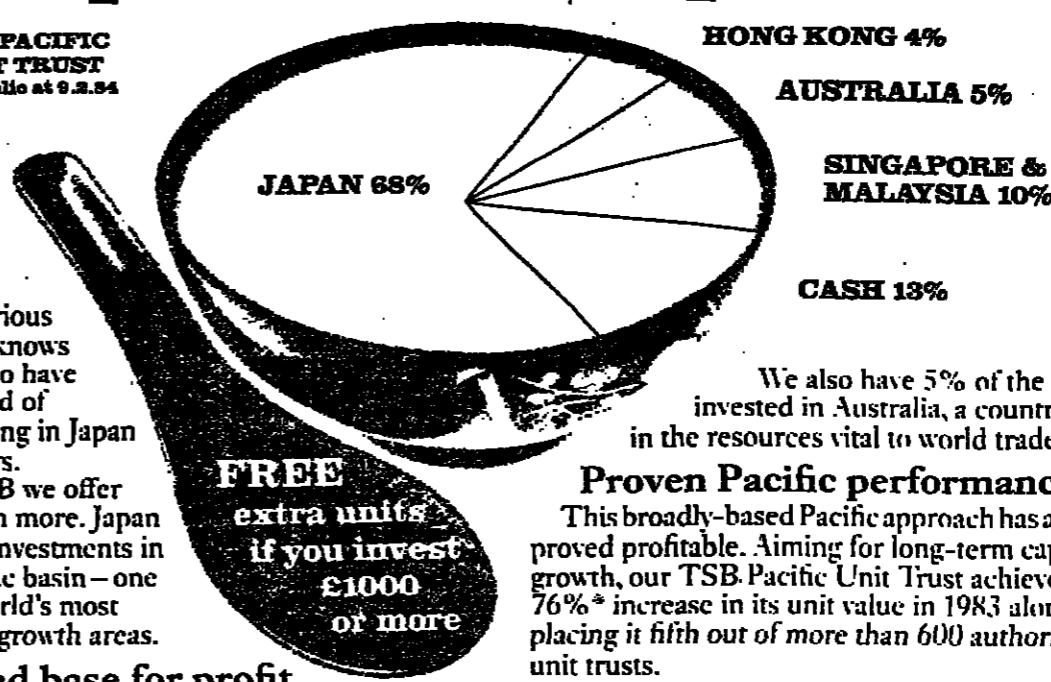
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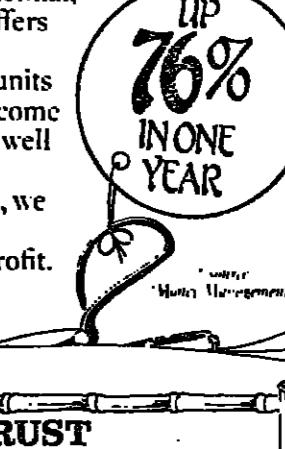
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Value of Fund £4,133

Amount Invested £2,100

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Value of Fund £4,303

Insurance

U-turn as
Pru covers
bikers

Yamaha motorcycle riders can secure tailor-made insurance when they buy their machines.

The Prudential is linking up with more than 600 Yamaha dealers to offer insurance through brokers Willis Faber. The Prudential has been induced to cast off its bicycle-clips image and actively seek motorcycle insurance business by the laws introduced a year ago which limit learner drivers to low-powered machines, stop them riding around for years on a provisional licence, and impose a stiff two-part test.

"We believe the effectiveness of this new legislation has had in reducing road accidents and damage will work through our claims experience. For this reason we are happy to be doing something of a U-turn in actively seeking out motorcycle business," said Mr Percy Knight, the Prudential's motor manager.

The scheme, available only to Yamaha motorbikes, follows the tie-up between Crusader Insurance and Suzuki. But Norwich Union still writes more than 60 per cent of motorcycle insurance business.

A 20-year-old living in Gloucestershire driving a 125cc Yamaha machine would pay £100 to the Prudential, and their cover compared with £75 to the Norwich Union. An 18-year-old on a 750cc bike in London would pay £875 for fully comprehensive cover at the Prudential but £990 with Norwich Union.

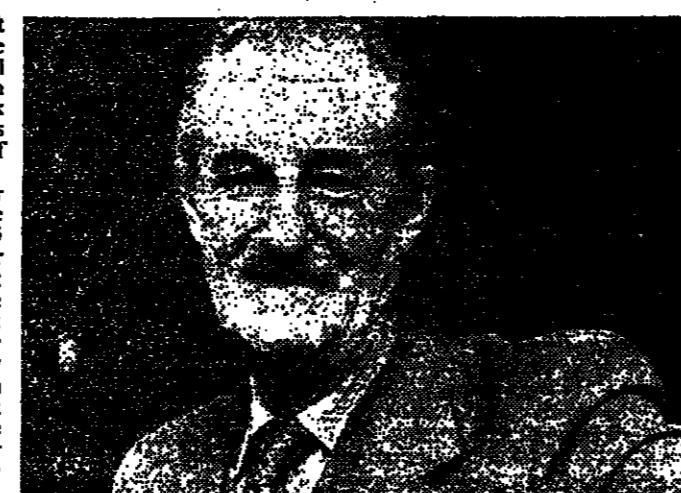
A spokesman for Norwich Union said: "Our rates represent the true risk. It would be interesting to know how other people could make profits. It is borderline with us."

Vivien Goldsmith

FAMILY MONEY

Retirement

The winners and losers in the pensions lottery



Harold Strudwick: A pension of less than half-pay

It is galling enough to be left with a pitiful pension because you have changed jobs several times, but it is even more of an outrage when you have stuck with one company for 49 years and end up with less than half pay.

That is what happened to Mr Harold Strudwick when he retired in May 1980 aged 65 after nearly 50 years working for the Co-operative Society. And it was not as if he were a blue collar worker, where a decent pension is, even today, the exception. Mr Strudwick now lives on just over £5,000 gross a year, his Co-op pension. At retirement he was earning more than £10,000 as a bank manager in Watford. The discrepancy between his pension and his counterparts' at other banks is large.

Thanks to the work of the Bankers and Insurance & Finance Union (Bifit) the other leading banks now provide a respectable pension worth two-thirds of employees' wages after 40 years' service.

Even so it has among its retired members those who stopped work in the early and mid-1970s who are receiving pensions of less than £3,000 a year, or £60 a week.

The stinginess of the Co-op pension is particularly ironic given its "people's bank" image. It expects its male employees to work until 65, while other banks allow retirement at 60 for a full pension. Other banks are also more generous with extra payments to pensioners whose standard of living has become eroded by inflation.

Bifit has made strenuous efforts to shame the Co-op into

bringing its pensions up to the level of other banks. Unfortunately it lost a court case on the issue recently. The Co-op argued successfully that although its bank was part of the banking industry, its special position inside the Co-operative movement meant that that part of the 1975 Employment Protection Act (Schedule 11, now repealed) stipulating that workers in comparable fields should enjoy the same terms and conditions did not apply.

Mr Strudwick's position is even more painful when his pension is compared with one of the best pensions – that of ICI. To begin with it is worth noting that all Mr Strudwick got on retirement was a £200 gratuity.

Mr Arthur Jones, international exhibitions officer for ICI's Mond division in Runcorn, was lucky. He took early retirement at 57 in 1981, a

redundancy cheque and a pension worth an impressive 90 per cent of the £10,000 he was earning when he left.

Both men joined their respective businesses at the age of 15 years and nine months. Mr Strudwick in 1931 (earning 12 shillings a week), and Mr Jones in 1939 (just over 10 shillings). But Mr Strudwick worked eight years more for almost half of what Mr Jones gets now. Both joined as clerks and both worked their way into middle management, ending on virtually the same salary.

Mr Jones received £6,000 gross in 1983 from the ICI Pension Fund and £3,000 income from the lump sum he commuted. He has these funds seemingly well managed by local financial consultants he was introduced to by ICI.

Mr Strudwick commuted the maximum 25 per cent allowed, but in stark contrast, received

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A pension fund for jockeys

Life will in future have fewer hurdles for jockeys who for the first time are to have their own pension fund.

Drawn up by the Jockeys' Association of Great Britain in conjunction with its pension consultants, Patrick MacNamee & Associates, the fund will provide a pension for both flat and National Hunt jockeys who have held a licence for three seasons and who weigh out for 50 rides or more in a season from March 1.

The fund, which has required a change in both the rules of racing and in legislation, claims to be the first pension fund for self-employed sportsmen.

Contributions to the fund will be made by allocating 0.6 per cent of total prize money (calculated to be approximately £120,000 in the first 10 months to the end of 1984) to the new pension scheme.

At the end of each calendar year, each qualifying jockey will be allocated one share in the pension fund for every ride during the preceding season.

Benefits are underwritten by Windsor Life, and retirement age will be 35 for National Hunt jockeys and 45 for those who ride on the flat.

L.B.

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As you see, a whole range of important policies - and now even cheaper!

Take our Family Income Cover policy, for example: an excellent way to protect your family for a very modest outlay.

For a monthly premium of only £7.06*, a healthy 'non-smoking' man aged 30 can arrange for his family to be paid a tax-free income of £10,000 per annum right up to the year 2004, should he die at any time before that date.

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FORSHAW'S DIES FOR Border Breweries

By Jeremy Warner

Border Breweries of Wrexham, which announced recently that it was in bid talks with an unnamed company, has attracted more than one suitor, it emerged yesterday.

Forshaws Burtonwood Brewery of Warrington, yesterday launched a £9.4m cash bid worth 175p a share for the company. But it is not the mystery suitor with whom Border is trying to thrash out agreed takeover terms.

"We hope that our bid will flush out whoever it is they are in talks with," Mr Graham Dutton-Forshaw, Burtonwood's chairman said. "We had talks with Border last November but were unable to get anywhere. Whoever it is trying to acquire the company at the moment must be in cohorts with Whitbread which owns 17 per cent of the company but would not bid it off."

Since he became chairman last September, Mr Dutton-Forshaw has brought new life to the sleepy Warrington brewery with which his family has been

associated since 1867. "I hope to give it a sense of direction and purpose," he said yesterday.

Both Burtonwood and Border have a large number of pubs in Wales so a merger between the two companies must have considerable commercial advantages for both. The merger will also create a stronger and more profitable independent brewery group.

A new name emerged among the other possible suitors for Border yesterday - Guinness. It has been looking for outlets for some time now, and Border would give it an automatic platform of 170 pubs in the north Wales area. Greenall Whitley and Wolverhampton and Dudley are also thought to be interested.

Forshaws owns about 300 pubs, some of which have a geographical overlap with Border.

On the stock market Border's shares leapt 26p to 180p in anticipation of a takeover a

battle.

The company believes this to be a "satisfactory performance in view of the fact that the reproductive market has yet to benefit from the upturn in activity being experienced by some other sectors of manufacturing industry".

Regalian in property deal with director

By Jonathan Clare

Regalian Properties, which has built its reputation refurbishing council flats under Mr David Goldstone the managing director is spending £6.1m on three blocks of flats in London.

The deals, announced yesterday, need shareholder consent because of the size, and the involvement of Davstone, Mr Goldstone's private property company. Davstone holds the lease on two of the properties and is the freeholder of the third.

It was also revealed yesterday that Regalian had been chosen from a shortlist to develop 150 flats in London's Docklands.

The biggest property in the deal with Davstone is in Notting Hill Gate and costs £2.8m. It is to be bought for cash through borrowings. The other two, in Hill Street, Mayfair and Church Street, Kensington, will be bought for cash funded by shares placed with institutions.

The effect of the institutional shareholding in Regalian will be to dilute the combined share.

The profit which Davstone made on the deal was "irrelevant", he said. He pointed out that the properties had been valued by Humberts, a blue-chip firm of valuers, and were being bought by Regalian at a discount. He said that the deal was being done for the benefit of Regalian and not for Davstone which would incur a substantial tax liability from the cash.

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High Low Stock Price Chg'g pence % Div Yield Yield

BRITISH FUNDS

	SHRAPS	1983/84	1982/83	1981/82	1980/81	1979/80	1978/79	1977/78	1976/77	1975/76	1974/75	1973/74	1972/73	1971/72	1970/71	1969/70	1968/69	1967/68	1966/67	1965/66	1964/65	1963/64	1962/63	1961/62	1960/61	1959/60	1958/59	1957/58	1956/57	1955/56	1954/55	1953/54	1952/53	1951/52	1950/51	1949/50	1948/49	1947/48	1946/47	1945/46	1944/45	1943/44	1942/43	1941/42	1940/41	1939/40	1938/39	1937/38	1936/37	1935/36	1934/35	1933/34	1932/33	1931/32	1930/31	1929/30	1928/29	1927/28	1926/27	1925/26	1924/25	1923/24	1922/23	1921/22	1920/21	1919/20	1918/19	1917/18	1916/17	1915/16	1914/15	1913/14	1912/13	1911/12	1910/11	1909/10	1908/09	1907/08	1906/07	1905/06	1904/05	1903/04	1902/03	1901/02	1900/01	1999/2000	1998/99	1997/98	1996/97	1995/96	1994/95	1993/94	1992/93	1991/92	1990/91	1989/90	1988/89	1987/88	1986/87	1985/86	1984/85	1983/84	1982/83	1981/82	1980/81	1979/80	1978/79	1977/78	1976/77	1975/76	1974/75	1973/74	1972/73	1971/72	1970/71	1969/70	1968/69	1967/68	1966/67	1965/66	1964/65	1963/64	1962/63	1961/62	1960/61	1959/60	1958/59	1957/58	1956/57	1955/56	1954/55	1953/54	1952/53	1951/52	1950/51	1949/50	1948/49	1947/48	1946/47	1945/46	1944/45	1943/44	1942/43	1941/42	1940/41	1939/40	1938/39	1937/38	1936/37	1935/36	1934/35	1933/34	1932/33	1931/32	1930/31	1929/30	1928/29	1927/28	1926/27	1925/26	1924/25	1923/24	1922/23	1921/22	1920/21	1919/20	1918/19	1917/18	1916/17	1915/16	1914/15	1913/14	1912/13	1911/12	1910/11	1909/10	1908/09	1907/08	1906/07	1905/06	1904/05	1903/04	1902/03	1901/02	1900/01	1999/2000	1998/99	1997/98	1996/97	1995/96	1994/95	1993/94	1992/93	1991/92	1990/91	1989/90	1988/89	1987/88	1986/87	1985/86	1984/85	1983/84	1982/83	1981/82	1980/81	1979/80	1978/79	1977/78	1976/77	1975/76	1974/75	1973/74	1972/73	1971/72	1970/71	1969/70	1968/69	1967/68	1966/67	1965/66	1964/65	1963/64	1962/63	1961/62	1960/61	1959/60	1958/59	1957/58	1956/57	1955/56	1954/55	1953/54	1952/53	1951/52	1950/51	1949/50	1948/49	1947/48	1946/47	1945/46	1944/45	1943/44	1942/43	1941/42	1940/41	1939/40	1938/39	1937/38	1936/37	1935/36	1934/35	1933/34	1932/33	1931/32	1930/31	1929/30	1928/29	1927/28	1926/27	1925/26	1924/25	1923/24	1922/23	1921/22	1920/21	1919/20	1918/19	1917/18	1916/17	1915/16	1914/15	1913/14	1912/13	1911/12	1910/11	1909/10	1908/09	1907/08	1906/07	1905/06	1904/05	1903/04	1902/03	1901/02	1900/01	1999/2000	1998/99	1997/98	1996/97	1995/96	1994/95	1993/94	1992/93	1991/92	1990/91	1989/90	1988/89	1987/88	1986/87	1985/86	1984/85	1983/84	1982/83	1981/82	1980/81	1979/80	1978/79	1977/78	1976/77	1975/76	1974/75	1973/74	1972/73	1971/72	1970/71	1969/70	1968/69	1967/68	1966/67	1965/66	1964/65	1963/64	1962/63	1961/62	1960/61	1959/60	1958/59	1957/58	1956/57	1955/56	1954/55	1953/54	1952/53	1951/52	1950/51	1949/50	1948/49	1947/48	1946/47	1945/46	1944/45	1943/44	1942/43	1941/42	1940/41	1939/40	1938/39	1937/38	1936/37	1935/36	1934/35	1933/34	1932/33	1931/32	1930/31	1929/30	1928/29	1927/28	1926/27	1925/26	1924/25	1923/24	1922/23	1921/22	1920/21	1919/20	1918/19	1917/18	1916/17	1915/16	1914/15	1913/14	1912/13	1911/12	1910/11	1909/10	1908/09	1907/08	1906/07	1905/06	1904/05	1903/04	1902/03	1901/02	1900/01	1999/2000	1998/99	1997/98	1996/97	1995/96	1994/95	1993/94	1992/93	1991/92	1990/91	1989/90	1988/89	1987/88	1986/87	1985/86	1984/85	1983/84	1982/83	1981/82	1980/81	1979/80	1978/79	1977/78	1976/77	1975/76	1974/75	1973/74	1972/73	1971/72	1970/71	1969/70	1968/69	1967/68	1966/67	1965/66	1964/65	1963/64	1962/63	1961/62	1960/61	1959/60	1958/59	1957/58	1956/57	1955/56	1954/55	1953/54	1952/53	1951/52	1950/51	1949/50	1948/49	1947/48	1946/47	1945/46	1944/45	1943/44	1942/43	1941/42	1940/41	1939/40	1938/39	1937/38	1936/37	1935/36	1934/35	1933/34	1932/33	1931/32	1930/31	1929/30	1928/29	1927/28	1926/27	1925/26	1924/25	1923/24	1922/23	1921/22	1920/21	1919/20	1918/19	1917/18	1916/17	1915/16	1914/15	1913/14	1912/13	1911/12	1910/11	1909/10	1908/09	1907/08	1906/07	1905/06	1904/05	1903/04	1902/03	1901/02	1900/01	1999/2000	1998/99	1997/98	1996/97	1995/96	1994/95	1993/94	1992/93	1991/92	1990/91	1989/90	1988/89	1987/88	1986/87	1985/86	1984/85	1983/84	1982/83	1981/82	1980/81	1979/80	1978/79	1977/78	1976/77	1975/76	1

Saturday

Television and radio programmes Edited by Peter Daville

Sunday

BBC 1

6.20 Open University (until 8.25), begins with the Message of Starlight, and ends (starring 8.00) with Biochemistry: Haemoglobin.
8.31 Godzillies: Fantastic cartoon; 9.00 Saturday Superstore: includes the final heat of the Supermodel Contest. Young film actress singer Clare Grogan is one of the guests; 12.12 Weather.
12.15 Grandstand: The line-up is: 12.20 Winter Olympics. Live coverage from Sarajevo (including final two runs of four-man bobsleigh final); 12.50 Football Focus; 1.10 Chepstow Racing: the 1.15 and 2.20 races; 1.20 Cricket: New Zealand v England; a one-day international; 1.45 1000m Show Racing: the 1.45 race; 1.55 Winter Olympics: more from Sarajevo; 2.10 Chepstow Racing; the 2.15 Avonley China Cup Steeplechase; 2.25 Winter Olympics (cont'd); 2.35 Racing: from Leopoldstown; the Wessel Cup Champion Hurdle.
2.50 Rugby Union: England v Ireland, from Twickenham; 4.40 Final Scores.
5.05 International Rugby Union: Wales v France. From Cardiff Arms Park, (highlights).
5.45 News: with Jan Leeming; 5.55 Sports round-up.
6.00 Jim'll Fix It: Jimmy Savile, the man who makes people's dreams come true, arranges for Kenny Ball and his Jazzmen to pay a call on a fan.
6.35 Film: The Scarlet Buccaneer (1978) Eighteenth-century swashbuckling yarn, set in the Caribbean, with Robert Shaw and James Earl Jones after treasure and romance. Peter Boyle plays the local 'nasty' Director: James Goldstone.
6.45 The Lee Devereux Show: Gloria Huniford, better known as a cheerful programme presenter, shows she is no mean singer, too. And Clasie and Ada continue their earthy observations on life.
8.45 News: read by Jan Leeming. And weather.
9.00 The Odd Job Man: Episode 2 of NJ Crisp's adventure serial starring Jon Finch as the ex-S.A.S. man carrying out espionage job for British Intelligence. Down on his luck, he accepts the job of trying to find an East German hit-man called Tauber (Wolfgang Kehler). Co-starring Ralph Bates and Polly Hemingway.
9.30 Wogan: Tonight's chat show guests are the Royal Ballet star Lesley Collier, the American funny man Mel Brooks, Larry Grayson, and the vocal duet Manhattan Transfer.
10.40 Olympic Grandstand: Ladies' Figure Skating Championship.
11.30 Film: The Reincarnation of Peter Proud (1975) Supernatural thriller about a lecturer's compulsive search for what he believes to be his previous incarnation - a man murdered by his wife. With Michael Sarrazin and Margot Kidder. Directed by J Lee Thompson; 11.10 Weather.

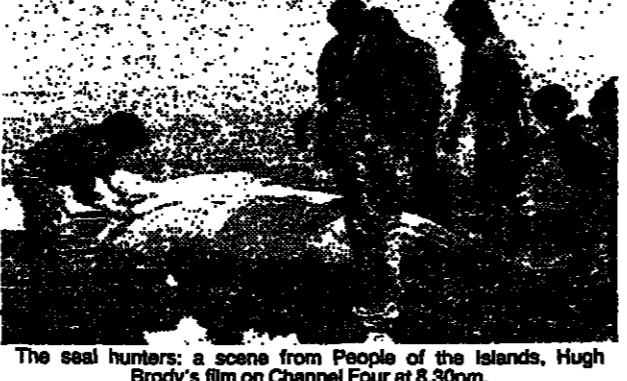
BBC 2

6.25 Good Morning Britain: with Henry Forrester; 1.10 Tom Arthur, includes Pick of the Week (6.30) news (7.00, sport 7.10), George Best exercises with guest Mary Stann (7.15), Rustle Lee's cookery spot (8.15).
8.44 Data Run: with the Superman movie special effects creator David Simonds, and result of the Edwar's engine competition. Plus the group called Trum.
12.15 World of Sports: The line-up is: 12.20 Winter Olympics. Live coverage from Sarajevo (including final two runs of four-man bobsleigh final); 12.50 Football Focus; 1.10 Chepstow Racing: the 1.15 and 2.20 races; 1.20 Cricket: New Zealand v England; a one-day international; 1.45 1000m Show Racing: the 1.45 race; 1.55 Winter Olympics: more from Sarajevo; 2.10 Chepstow Racing; the 2.15 Avonley China Cup Steeplechase; 2.25 Winter Olympics (cont'd); 2.35 Racing: from Leopoldstown; the Wessel Cup Champion Hurdle.
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ITV/LONDON

9.25 LWT Information: what's on locally; 9.30 Sesame Street: Learning about life, with The Muppets; 10.30 The Saturday Show: with Roger Daltrey, Christopher Biggins and Melvyn Bragg.
12.15 World of Sports: The line-up is: 12.20 Athletics: The Toronto Star Indoor Games. And the Michelob Invitational, from San Diego, California; 12.45 News; 12.50 On the Ball (FA Cup and Scottish Cup preview); 1.20 The ITV Seven: From Nottingham - the 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30. From Newcastle, the 1.45, 2.15 and 2.55. From Leopoldstown - the Wessel Cup Champion Hurdle, at 2.40.
3.10 Boxing: Bumgar v Tangstedt, live from Copenhagen; 3.45 Half-time football scores; 4.00 Wrestling: three bouts from Winstorf; 4.65 Results, including classified pools check.
5.00 News from ITN.
5.05 Fraggle Rock: The hairy ones who live under a lighthouse enlister the powers of Convincing John.
5.35 The Fall Guy: A crooked businessman's wife plans to frame her husband and take over his business. With Lee Majors.
6.30 Child's Play: Children define words, and grown-ups have to decide what the words are. The celebrity guests are Suzi Quatro and Christopher Biggins. The contestants are Steve Young and Angella Brooks.
7.00 3-2-1: Game show, with a James Bond-type theme. Tonight's guest performers include Don Estelle, James Villiers and Jenny Lee Wright.
8.00 T J Hooker: A murder is witnessed by a woman while out with a married man. She is, therefore, in a tricky situation when it comes to giving evidence; 9.00 News from ITN. And sports round-up.
9.15 Film: Cattle Annie and Little Britches (1979) Light-hearted western, with Burt Lancaster, John Savage and Rod Steiger. Two women mastermind one of the craziest jailbreaks in movie history. With Diane Lane and Amanda Plummer. Director: Lamont Johnson.
11.05 London news. Followed by: Rock Concert: Songs from Linda Ronstadt including Blue Bayou and You're No Good. Recorded in the US.
12.35 Best of Saturday Night Live: comedy show, with Raquel Welch, John Sebastian and the Muppets as special guests. Followed by the Night Thoughts of Dr Una Kroll. Closedown at 1.35.

TV-2am



The seal hunters: a scene from People of the Islands, Hugh Brody's film on Channel Four at 8.30pm.

CHANNEL 4

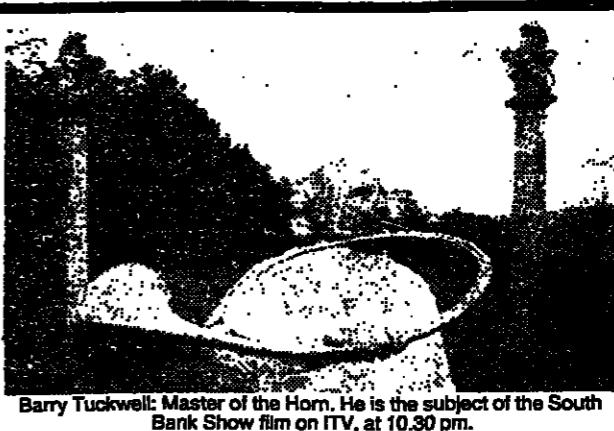
6.25 Open University (until 3.10). Begins with The Origin of the Earth, and ends (starts 2.45) with Modern Art: Courbet; 3.10 Pages from Caesar.
3.40 Film: Blood and Sand (1922, tinted, with piano soundtrack). Famous Valentine silent, with the heartthrob as a small-town boy who becomes Spain's top matador, marrying his childhood sweetheart but failing under the spell of an auringa matador. With Lila Lee and Rita Naldi.
5.00 Film: Don't Look to Knock (1960). Thinlawn British comedy with Rita Todd as the travel agent who gives the key to his flat to girls whom he meets during his European trips. With June Thorburn, Eila Sommar and Nicole Maurey. Directed by Cyril Frankel.
6.25 From Swamps to Coast: Film about the vast amounts of peat to be found in the Okefenokee Swamp in southern Georgia. With Dr Art Cohen, swamp expert, and Dr Simon Conway Morris, Open University palaeontologist.
6.30 Sight and Sound in Concert: Curtis Mayfield at the Marcus Garvey Centre in Nottingham (also on Radio 1, in stereo); 7.30 News. And sport.
7.50 The Fasting Girl: The story of the Welsh girl's daughter Sarah Jacob (played by 12-year-old Angharad James) who, in the late 1800s, attracted great interest when her family claimed that she was able to live for a year without food or drink. With Iain Cuthbertson.
9.10 Cricket: One-day International between New Zealand and England, in Christchurch.
9.30 C. P. Snow's Strangers and Brothers: Repeat screening of episode 6 (of 13), Spring 1939 - a time of crisis for Sheila Eliot (Natalie Ruskin) and Roy Calvert (Nigel Havers) (r).
10.40 The Light of Experience Revisited: Bel Mooney with the updated story of Shirley Nolan whose son Anthony died in 1978 of bone marrow disease; 11.05 News and weather.
11.05 Film: Diabolical Manne (1977). French film, with subtitles, about a year in the life of two sisters (Eleanore Klarwein and Odile Michel) and their year of sexual awakening and political initiation at a girls' school. Written and directed by Diane Kurys. Ends at 12.30am.

BBC 1

8.20 Open University (until 8.50). Begins with World food production, and ends (starts at 8.25) with stereochemistry.
9.00 Postman Pat: 8.15 Sunday Worship: from the Chapel of St John's College, Nottingham; 10.00 The Story of Sadiq Subham and his British Muslim Marriage bureau; 10.30 Play it Safe: burns, and what to do about them (r); 10.40 Maths Help: Geometry 1 (r); 10.55 Greek Language and People: asking for somewhere to stay (r); 1.15 The TTS: another in the Youth Training Scheme film series; 11.45 Madhur Jaffrey's Indian Cookery Course: Rogan Josh (from BBC 2).
12.10 See Heart for those with hearing difficulties; 12.35 Making the Most of the Micro: music and speech from computers (r); 1.10 Farming: 1.25 Telling Stock: Life for the 50-year-olds in the 1960s (r); 1.50 News headlines.

ITV/LONDON

8.25 LWT Information: what's on locally; 9.30 Collectors' Corner: Jenny Hanley and love tokens such as love spoons (r); 10.30 Morning Worship: from the Methodist Church, Burley-in-Wharfedale, Yorkshire; 11.00 Link: Sport and the disabled; 11.30 A Badger's Head: Tom Coyle's choice in books. Also in the studio: authors Ian Banks and Carolyn Slaughter (from BBC 2).
12.00 Weekend World: Brian Walden with another edition of the current affairs programme that regularly contributes to Monday's 'Weekend'.



Barry Tuckwell: Master of the Horn. He is the subject of the South Bank Show film on ITV, at 10.30 pm.

BBC 2

8.25 Open University (until 8.50). Begins with Brain and Brawn, and ends (starts at 8.25) with Population Modelling.

8.30 Horizon: Valley of the Inca. An experiment to see if new life can be brought to a once-flourishing but now decaying valley in the Peruvian Andes.

8.40 Quintet: The Melos Quartet of Stuttgart, with Frank Beyer (viola), perform Bruckner's String Quintet in F.

8.45 International Rugby Special: Highlights from yesterday's Wales versus France, and England versus Ireland matches.

8.50 News headlines. Weather. Followed by: 7 Days: Moral and religious issues.

8.55 Face the Press: Alistair Graham, general secretary, Civil and Public Servant's Association.

8.55 Cricket: Benson and Hedges World Series Cup. The deciding game in the one-day series between Australia, the West Indies and Pakistan. From Melbourne Cricket Ground.

8.55 The Making of Britain: Dr Klavs Randsborg on the Viking invasion of AD 793.

1.25 Irish Angle: Informal comment from either north or south of the border.

2.20 Top Ten for Two (1950) Hollywood musical, based on the famous stage musical *No, No, Nanette*. Doris Day accepts a 25,000-dollar bet that she will say only "no" for 24 hours. With Gordon MacRae, Gene Nelson. Director: David Butler.

4.10 Jack's Game: Jack Charlton joins the Holmes Valley Beagles in Yorkshire, in pursuit of hare.

4.40 The Motor Show: Diesel cars and convertibles. And there is a family test of the Volvo 350.

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8.05 One Pair of Eyes: First of seven films, serious and otherwise, which delve into interesting people's lives. Tonight: Paul Cook, the Devon artist, known for her well-rounded women.

8.35 All the World's a Stage: Fourth film in a series. How the world of theatre, from world theatre, is called Mystery, and it tells how episodes in Christ's life were translated into medieval imagery that found its way into a new, secular drama.

8.30 Did You See...? The panel in tonight's television forum consists of Gillian Tindall, Dr Malcolm Coe, and Sir Randolph Twisleton-Wykeham Fiennes. And Michael Church examines the television image of the teenager.

10.25 News on Two. And weather. 10.35 Australian Cinema: Breaker Morant (1980). Curtain-up on a new season of Australian films.

10.35 The South Bank Show: Barry Tuckwell: Master of the Horn. The spotlight falls on the French horn and its famous exponent, with the English Chamber Orchestra and actor Nicholas Grace (playing Mozart). Works by Britten, Mozart, Beethoven, et al. 11.30 News headlines.

11.35 The Protectors: with Robert Vaughn and Nyree Dawn Porter. Was Harry Role's car accident real or imagined? (r). Followed by Night Thoughts.

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4.10

Fringe candidates turn out in force for the £150 Chesterfield stakes

By David Cross

With a record 17 candidates, 14 of them from fringe parties, the Chesterfield by-election is likely to be one of the last to attract such a large field.

The Government's promise to raise deposits from £150 to £1,000 will undoubtedly put off most would-be candidates.

Mr Tony Benn, former secretary of state for industry, the Labour Party candidate, was defeated at Bristol South-east at the general election.

A former chairman of the Labour Party National Executive and a rallying point for the left-wing, he contested the deputy leadership unsuccessfully against Mr Denis Healey in 1981.

He is the favourite to win the Chesterfield seat, which Mr Eric Varley, the retiring member, held by 7,763 votes.

Mr Nicholas Bourne, aged 32, a barrister from Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, is contesting Chesterfield for the Conservatives for the second time. Last June he polled 16,118 votes to Mr Varley's 23,881.

A company secretary, Mr Bourne says that one of the main planks in his campaign will be attracting more jobs to the town, where unemployment is about 13 per cent.

Mr Max Payne, aged 54, a polytechnic lecturer, is fighting his fifth election as a Liberal and now an Alliance candidate. He contested Carlton in 1964 and 1966 and Chesterfield in 1979 and at the last election.

Polling will take place on March 1.

Mr Tony Benn

Mr Nicholas Bourne

Mr Max Payne



Miss Helen Anscomb (Death off Roads: Freight on Rail) is an unemployed classics teacher. She is 37, was educated at the University of Wales and lives at Highclere, Berkshire. Last October, she brought a successful court action against the departments of Transport and the Environment over routing of the M40 through Highclere Park, forcing them to hold a public inquiry. She contested Finchley against Mrs Thatcher in the general election.

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Mr Jitendra Ji Nir Bardwai, who was born in India 46 years ago, is an electrical technician at Hatfield Polytechnic with an interest in computers. He is 37, married with two children, and lives in Grindelford, Derbyshire. He is 40, married with two children and lives at Thame. Mr Butler says he is the first person to use an election to promote a business. He has no political experience and is driven by people with an independent spirit. It represents exactly what I stand for."

Mr David Bentley (Four



Mr David Butler (Buy Your Chesterfields in Thame Party) is an upholsterer and furniture manufacturer who sells Chesterfield settles from a shop in Thame, Oxfordshire. He is 40, married with two children and lives at Thame. Mr Butler says he is the first person to use an election to promote a business. He has no political experience and is driven by people with an independent spirit. It represents exactly what I stand for."

Mr David Cahill, who is



campaigning on the Reclassify Sun Newspaper as a comic ticket, says that his manifesto is self explanatory. Mr Cahill, aged 33, who describes himself as an independent social psychology research worker from west London, appears to mistrust the press generally because he is aggressive and insistent his name should be spelt correctly. "This is the first and last time I am seeking treatment and consequently I am not suffering." He believes dental charges may be again shortly. "By standing in this election the public will pressure the Government to think again."



Mr John Connell (Peace), a freelance journalist and former social worker writes on British industry and politics for the *Christian Science Monitor*. He is 56, married and lives in Winchburgh, West Lothian. Mr Connell, a member of CND, has fought two by-elections, at Glasgow, Queen's Park in December, 1982, where he polled 40 votes, and at Pearnish last July, polling 69. He cannot afford to campaign actively.



Mr John Victor Davis, aged 25, a single dental surgeon from Chesterfield is standing on a No Increases in Dental Charges platform. He went up 50 per cent last year, leading to a rise in the number of people seeking treatment and consequently a rise in suffering. He believes dental charges may be again shortly. "By standing in this election the public will pressure the Government to think again."



Lord David Satch (Master Raving Loony Party Last Stand) is a pop singer and veteran of 10 by-elections. He stood twice against Mr Harold Wilson at Huyton in the 1960s and has always lost his deposit. Among the subjects he has exposed are votes at 16, abolition of VAT and road tax and the conversion of the Swansea vehicle licensing centre into a home for pensioners and unmarried mothers.



Mr Christopher Hill, aged 18, from West Drayton, West London, is the youngest candidate in the by-election. He is standing for the Prisoner I Am not a Number party, which he bases on the *Prisoner* television series repeated recently on Channel 4. He would not be able to take up his seat until his twenty-first birthday. Mr Hill intends to visit Chesterfield at least twice before polling day.

Mr T A "Tommy" Layton, (Spare the Earth, Ecology), aged 71, is a retired wine merchant and writer on wine, food and travel who ran a business from premises near the British Museum for more than 30 years. He is married with a son and daughter and lives in Hove, Sussex. Mr Layton contested Hove last June, polling 520 votes. Five hundred copies of his manifesto have been distributed.



Mr Bill Maynard (Independent) is an actor and former stand-up comedian known most recently for his starring role in the Yorkshire Television series *Oh No It's Selwyn Froggit!* Today he completes a run in the pantomime *Mother Goose* at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham. He is 55, a widower and lives at Sapcote, Leicestershire. Mr Maynard, a Labour supporter, opposes the selection of Mr Benn.



Mr Paul Nicholls-Jones, aged 31, (Independent, the Welshman), lives with his parents in the Rhondda Valley where he sells burglar alarms and insurance policies. A part-time fireman, he has worked as a nurse and a Merchant Navy Seaman. He has studied behavioral science at the Polytechnic of Wales. If elected he would support Alliance policies, but does not want to be tied to party dogma.



Mr Giancarlo Renato Piccaro, aged 21, a second-year student at Worcester College of Higher Education, is standing as the Official Acme Party candidate. His home is at Mountain Ash, mid Glamorgan, and he decided to have himself nominated to try to get publicity to raise money for research into the problem of acne, which he has suffered since the age of 16. He was a Conservative Party member.

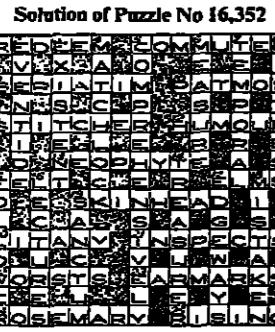


Mr Sid Shaw, aged 37, of Piccaro, aged 21, a second-year student at Worcester College of Higher Education, is standing as the Official Acme Party candidate. His home is at Mountain Ash, mid Glamorgan, and he decided to have himself nominated to try to get publicity to raise money for research into the problem of acne, which he has suffered since the age of 16. He was a Conservative Party member.



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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE



Today's events

New exhibitions

Hockney's Photographs: National Museum of Photography Film and Television; Prince's View, Bradford; Tues to Sat 12 to 8; Sun 2.30 to 6pm (closed Mons) (until - March 25th). Words and Pictures from Memory by Penelope Webb, Cambridge Darkroom, Dales Brewery, Gwydir St, Tues to Sat 12-8, Sun 12 to 6, (Mon closed) (until - March 4th). Room for Thought, Eight Works for Contemplation, Oriole-Welsh Arts Council Gallery, 53 Charles St, Cardiff; Mon to Sat 9 to 5 (closed Sun) (until March 17th).

Exhibitions in progress

Unbuilt Oxford (McAlpine Galleries, Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street; Tues to Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 4 (closed Mon) until 10 March).

Last chance to see

Dimension, Boundary, Presence; an exhibition of works by John Stevenson, Tambridge Wells Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Mount Pleasant, 9.30 to 5 (ends today). Winter exhibition by gallery artists. Colin Jellicoe, Gallery 82, Fort Street, Manchester, 1 to 5 (ends today).

Drawings by George Fullard, Machining Art Gallery, Rosehill Park, Ay, Sat 11 to 5 (ends today).

Music

Organ recital by Gordon Stewart, Manchester Cathedral, 7.30.

Recital by Albany Berg Quartet, Birmingham Cathedral, 7.30.

Choral concert, Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham, 7.30.

Concert by Tauron Sinfonietta, Albertine Assembly Rooms, Tauron 7.30.

Concert by Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Queens Hall, Bournemouth, 7.30.

Concert by Bournemouth Sinfonietta, Wexford Hall, Peale, 7.30.

Concert by La Raphael, St Cecilia Hall, Cowgate, Edinburgh, 7.45.

Talks and lectures

Toy Trains by Jim Wood, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 11 am.

London event

Folk Festivals, The Doonan Family Dead Sea Surfers, Lancashire Walkers, Edge Upton and others. Thurs 12 to 8. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (ends today).

London run

High on Hampstead Heath, non competitive runs with London Hash House Harriers, start car park, East Heath, Hampstead, NW3, 10.45.

TOMORROW

1 Paid up issue, including a whole range of notes (8).

2 New house-cat, M. Poirot's pride (9).

3 ... and the best (inter alia) means of killing it? (5).

4 Performed 10, non-U version finally? (7).

5 One as influential as Svengali (9).

6 Bones spread out in a circle (5).

7 So much corn may conceal one's talent (6).

8 Somehow not quite nice description of racial groups (6).

9 A little master, it's possible, for a customer for Burke and Hare (9).

10 What gives Donald Duck such a mystery? (9).

11 One of two heard in PM's pronouncement (6).

12 French viticultural's home? (7).

13 A cheap sort of dance (6).

14 Port one found in beer containers (5).

15 I'm a Scottish solicitor upset by a Hindu teacher (5).

16 Those witnessing Antony's request for this (8).

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 19

Roads

Wales and West: A35: Temporarily traffic signs at Bow Bridge, between Amlwch-Hanbury and Loughor, Devon, A30: Temporarily traffic lights at Whiddon Down, Sticklepath, Lobith, Lewdown between Exeter-Launceston, A417: Diversions via new northern bypass, Gloucester, (Old A40) St Oswald's Road.

North: Liverpool: Queensway tunnel closed nightly, all traffic is being diverted via the Liverpool Wallasey tunnel, 9.15pm to 5.45am. Reopenings: 6.15am to 7.25am, 12.15pm to 1.30pm.

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